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PH congressman meets with Filipino community on Saipan. PAGE 3

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IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

King-Hinds makes CNMI history

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As the first woman, first Republican, and first Tinian native to represent the CNMI in U.S. Congress, delegate-elect Kimberlyn King-Hinds has made history in more ways than one following this year's general elections.

See KING-HINDS on Page 4

'Grateful for the support and hopeful for the future'

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

After months of campaigning and garnering an amount of support, Independent candidates John Oliver Bolis Gonzales and James "Jim" Rayphand shared that looking back, they feel gratitude for their supporters and congratulated incoming U.S. delegate for the Northern Mariana Islands Kimberlyn King-Hinds.

Rayphand

Gonzales

Following the release of the official results in the 2024 CNMI general election, yesterday Saipan Tribune reached out to all candidates who ran for the U.S. delegate seat, including the independent candidates. In his official statement, Gonzales shared, "I am delighted to extend

See GRATEFUL on Page 4

Trump wins White House in political comeback rooted in appeals to frustrated voters

WASHINGTON (AP)— Donald Trump was elected the 47th president of the United States on Wednesday, an extraordinary comeback for a former president who refused to accept defeat four years ago, sparked a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, was convicted of felony charges and survived two assassination attempts.

With a win in Wisconsin, Trump cleared the 270 electoral votes needed to clinch the presidency.

The victory validates his bare-knuckle approach to politics. He attacked his Democratic rival, Kamala Harris, in deeply personal—often misogynistic and racist—terms as he pushed an apocalyptic picture of a country overrun by violent migrants. The coarse rhetoric, paired with an image of hypermasculinity, resonated with angry voters—particularly men—in a

See TRUMP on Page 4

AP

Republican presidential nominee former President Donald Trump smiles at an election night watch party at the Palm Beach Convention Center, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024, in West Palm Beach, Fla.

CEC completes tabulations in record time

The Commonwealth Election Commission as they certify election results early yesterday morning at Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Compared to previous elections, the Commonwealth Election Commission completed tabulations and certified results as early as 5:20am yesterday morning.

One of the major changes made during this year's election was the election commission's adoption of CEC executive director Kayla Igitol's recommendation to start early voting tabulations as soon as election day ballots start coming in.

According to CEC

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INSIDE

BUSINESS
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is excited to celebrate its second anniversary, offering guests a variety of celebratory promotions across the resort throughout November.
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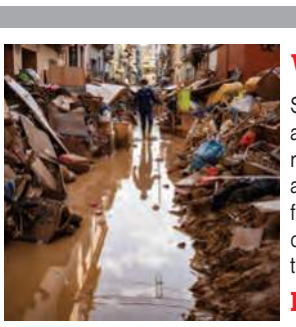

WORLD
Spain's central government on Tuesday approved a 10.6-billion-euro ($11.6-billion) relief package for 78 communities where at least one person has died from the floods. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez compared it to the measures taken during the COVID-19 pandemic.
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LIFE & STYLE
In a new video posted early Election Day, Beyoncé channels Pamela Anderson in the television program "Baywatch"–red one-piece swimsuit and all–and asks viewers to vote.
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Local

Daniel Aquino: Third time's the charm

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Independent Daniel "Iwashita" Aquino won the second seat for the Precinct 2 House of Representatives in yesterday's 2024 general elections.

The former head of the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs received 559 votes or 33.45% of total ballots cast, while fellow independent candidate Diego M. Sablan garnered the lowest vote of 412 or 24.66%. Incumbent Rep. Paul Sablan (Ind-Saipan) topped the results in Precinct 2 with 700 votes or 41.89% of all the votes.

"This is my third time to run for Precinct 2 House. It was the most difficult and challenging one since I was going against an incumbent and a coalition of incumbents. Despite the challenges, I knew that I had a strong base and needed to just go out and knock on doors and ask for votes. It actually made me see just how bad the state of one village was," said Aquino.

It was in August of this year when Aquino was fired from his position as special assistant to the governor for military affairs and the head of the CBMA and on Aug. 7 he filed his candidacy.

According to Aquino, the termination of his employment was an act of retaliation since he is running against the administration's Precinct 2 candidates Rep. Paul P. Sablan and Substance Abuse Addiction and Rehabilitation Program special assistant Diego M. Sablan.

"Despite the 'wrongful termination,' I received a lot of support and words of encouragement to continue my journey. I stayed focused on the people of Precinct 2 and will always put them first and include them in the decision-making process of bills and important things affecting our community."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Now precinct 2 representative-elect Daniel Aquino, left, poses with now U.S. delegate-elect Kimberlyn King-Hinds, second left, and wife Joann Aquino in front of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library poll precinct last Tuesday.

When asked about the first thing he will do once seated in the office, he said that he will start with assessing the villages.

"I will look at the needs of our villages and begin the task of rebuilding our community and fulfilling my campaign promises which is to work hard, work hard, and work hard."

Municipal council, BOE results

The municipal councils for Rota, Tinian and Aguiguan, and Saipan and Northern Islands are composed of three members, elected at-large, in the island or islands and will serve on a non-partisan basis in a two-year term.

Saipan and Northern Islands winners are Marian DeLeon Guerrero who garnered the highest number of votes with 6,190 or 33.58%, followed by Carmen Cabrera Pangelinan who got 6,138 votes or 33.29%, and Antonio Manibusan Tudela who received 6,108 votes or 33.13%.

For the islands of Tinian and Aguiguan, Ana Marie Cruz San Nicolas earned 737 votes or 34.23%, followed by Joseph Romaldo Evangelista Santos with 711 votes or 33.02% and Estevan Pangelinan Cabrera with 705 votes or 32.75%.

On Rota, the island with four candidates was topped by Jonovan Hocog Lizama who garnered 950 votes or 29.61% followed by Sandra Mesngon Masga with 835 votes or 26.03%, and Tillie Castro came in third with 823 votes or 25.65% votes. Jim Michael Atalig received 600 votes and outside the Top 3.

Meanwhile, for the Board of Education of Saipan, Aschumar Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong earned 4,889 votes or 29.99% and Maisie Tenorio with 3,816 votes or 23.41% were the winners. Outside looking in were Gregory Pat Borja, Juan Iguel Tenorio, and Martin Borja Ada, garnering 2,622, 2,335, and 2,639 votes, respectively.

For Rota's BOE seat, Anthony Wayne Barcinas ran unopposed and received 1,155 votes.

PLEASE VOTE
#2 AQUINO
DANIEL IWASHITA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE - PRECINCT 2 (I)
IT'S TIME FOR REAL CHANGE
YOU DESERVE BETTER! WE ALL DO!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Precinct 2 representative-elect Daniel Aquino's wife Joann and sister Rosa Aquino.

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PH congressman meets with Filipino community on Saipan

RACQUEL H. FLOYD

Dozens of the Saipan Filipino community members meet-and-greet with Philippine Congressman Rodante Marcoleta last Friday night at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Dozens of the Filipino community members on Saipan met with the Philippine Congressman Rodante Marcoleta last Friday evening at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

Former United Filipino Organization president Marcelo V. Masilungan addressed his concerns regarding the absence of consular services, labor attaché, and legal means that caused hardship for Filipinos on Saipan.

"Actually, this is the meeting that I've been requesting to the Philippine Consulate in Agana, Guam every time they come and visit CNMI, but the promise they told us is starting next year, because there's no budget. But I think they're going to review that because I reported that conversation. Because you know, we have so many concerns. We have so many problems. We don't have a consulate office, we don't have an honorary consul, we don't have labor attaché, we don't have legal means," he said.

Masilungan emphasized the urgency of addressing these issues to ensure the well-being of Filipinos in the CNMI.

RACQUEL H. FLOYD

From left, former United Filipino Organization president Marcelo V. Masilungan, Edna Marcoleta, Philippine Congressman Rodante Marcoleta, Coral Coast Foundation Corp. director Eleanor Alinas, and Kalayaan Inc.'s Maverick Rotap.

Masilungan then encouraged the Filipino community to speak up and ask questions to the visiting congressman who is running for Philippine senator as well.

Marcoleta expressed his gratitude in meeting with his *kababayans*—or countrymen—and shared that it was his first time to be on Saipan.

The processing of papers of Filipino contract workers that have to be coursed through Washington, D.C., and to have a program for the undocumented Filipinos on the island were among the concerns raised during the meet-and-greet. Coral Coast Foundation Corp. director Eleanor Alinas, who organized the meet-and-greet explained to Marcoleta that the CNMI is composed of three main islands Saipan, Rota, and Tinian and she said that Filipinos on the other two islands are requesting for him to visit them too.

Marcoleta concluded the meet-and-greet by saying that all the concerns gathered will be relayed as soon as possible to Arnel Ignacio, who is the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration administrator.

Saipan Humane Society, Parker Project to host low-cost spay, neuter clinic

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

In response to Saipan's growing need for affordable pet care, the Saipan Humane Society has announced an upcoming low-cost spay and neuter clinic this coming week.

According to a press release issued by SHS, the initiative was made possible through a partnership with the Parker Project, and will bring much-needed services to the island's pet community.

"We're thrilled to announce this clinic in response to overwhelming community demand. Our goal is to ensure that everyone in the community has access to affordable spay and neuter services, contributing to a healthier and more compassionate Saipan for all," read the press release.

SHS shared that the Parker Project, a nonprofit organization primarily focused on serving the Navajo Nation, will be sending a team of nine, including veterinarian Dr. Karter Neal, to conduct the clinic on Nov. 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

"The team is excited to branch out to help animals in need in the CNMI," SHS stated, expressing their gratitude for the Parker Project's willingness to extend their expertise to Saipan.

The clinic will be held at the Kagman Community Center and surgeries for both male and female dogs and cats will be available for a fee of $40. SHS shared that recognizing that the cost might still pose a challenge for some residents, SHS encourages those in need to reach out.

SHS

Saipan Humane Society's Ruby Ma smiles with a furry patient post-treatment at SHS' last spay and neuter clinic last month.

SHS

Saipan Humane Society's Shareen Mongkeya kisses a furry patient post-treatment at SHS' last spay and neuter clinic last month.

"If the $40 cost poses a financial challenge, we encourage community members to reach out," said SHS in their statement. "Limited sponsorships are available to ensure that every pet has access to this vital service."

This clinic will also offer an important opportunity for "loosely owned" or community pets—those animals cared for by several households but without a single owner. SHS continues to share the significance of these efforts.

"Spaying or neutering these animals is essential to reduce the number of homeless or abandoned animals and prevent the cycle of unwanted litters."

For residents interested in helping these community pets, SHS is available to guide them through the process.

Appointments for the clinic can be scheduled online beginning Nov. 5 at www.saipanhumanesociety.org. For questions or to inquire about sponsorships, the Humane Society can be reached at clinic@saipanhumanesociety.org or by calling (670) 233-7387.

With Parker Project's support, SHS hopes the clinic will ease the burden for pet owners across the island and pave the way for a brighter future for Saipan's animals.

CEDA
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Thursday, November 7, 2024

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CEDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CEDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CEDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, CEDA BUILDING, OLEAI SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  A. Call to Order
  B. Roll Call
  C. Adoption of Agenda
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. ADMINISTRATIVE & PERSONNEL MATTERS
  1. Recruitment of Executive Director
  2. Comptroller's Salary
IV. BOARD RESOLUTION CEDA-2008-2024 (BANK OF GUAM LOAN)
V. PENSION OBLIGATION BOND UPDATE
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/FRANCISCO M. RABAULIMAN
Chairman, Board of Directors

ANTONIO SN. BORJA, Chairman · HENRY H. SAN NICOLAS, Vice Chairman
DONALD M. HOFSCHNEIDER, Member · CHARLENE M. LIZAMA, Executive Director

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
  a. Call to Order
  b. Roll Call
  c. Adoption of Agenda
  d. Adoption of Minutes
    1. September 17, 2024 – Regular Meeting
    2. October 9, 2024 – Special Meeting
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]
III. REPORTS
  a. Chair's Report
  b. Executive Director's Report
IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  a. Status Update of Bridge Investment Group/Tinian Diamond Casino
V. NEW BUSINESS
  a. TCGCC Organizational Chart
  b. ED Recommendation No. 2025-01
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]
VII. OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS
VIII. MISCELLANEOUS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
IX. ADJOURNMENT

[1] Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

NMTECH
Northern Marianas Technical Institute
12966 Lower Base Dr.
P.O. Box 504880 Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID

NMTI-ITB 2025001
NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
WORKFORCE CAREER TRAINING FACILITY

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTech), located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute Workforce Training Facility. This project is being funded by the Northern Marianas Technical Institute Workforce Career Training Facility Construction Project from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, EDA Project No. 07-79-07543.

This solicitation is in accordance with NMTech Procurement Regulations §3000-225. To also include provisions of NMTech Procurement Regulations, Section §3000-525 prohibiting kickbacks and gratuities, Section §3000-530 prohibition against contingent fees shall apply.

The project package will be available in digital format only on **Friday, November 1, 2024,** at the NMTech Procurement Office, located at Lower Base, Saipan. Monday through Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm only.

A **Pre-bid Conference** will be held at the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, Lower Base Campus, Saipan, CNMI at 4:00pm **ChST, November 8, 2024.**

All questions or inquiries regarding this ITB is to be submitted via email only to: procurement@nmtechcnmi.org, no later than **4:00pm ChST, November 15, 2024.** All questions and answers will be shared will all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit (via email only to procurement@nmtechcnmi.org) the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the NMTech Procurement Officer no later than **9:30am ChST, December 03, 2024.**

Sealed bids for this project shall be submitted with one (1) original and four (4) copies to the NMTech Procurement Officer located at the NMTI campus, Lower Base, Saipan, MP-96950 no later than **10:00 am, local time, Chamorro Standard Time, December 03, 2024 and must be marked "NMTI-ITB 2025001"**

NMTech reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute.

/s/Jodina C. Attao
Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Amy Lynn Babauta
Procurement Officer

TRUMP

From page 1

deeply polarized nation.

As president, he's vowed to pursue an agenda centered on dramatically reshaping the federal government and pursuing retribution against his perceived enemies. Speaking to his supporters Wednesday morning, Trump claimed he had won "an unprecedented and powerful mandate."

The results cap a historically tumultuous and competitive election season that included two assassination attempts targeting Trump and a shift to a new Democratic nominee just a month before the party's convention. Trump will inherit a range of challenges when he assumes office on Jan. 20, including heightened political polarization and global crises that are testing America's influence abroad.

His win against Harris, the first woman of color to lead a major party ticket, marks the second time he has defeated a female rival in a general election. Harris, the current vice president, rose to the top of the ticket after President Joe Biden exited the race amid alarm about his advanced age. Despite an initial surge of energy around her campaign, she struggled during a compressed timeline to convince disillusioned voters that she represented a break from an unpopular administration.

Trump is the first former president to return to power since Grover Cleveland regained the White House in the 1892 election. He is the first person convicted of a felony to be elected president and, at 78, is the oldest person elected to the office. His vice president, 40-year-old Ohio Sen. JD Vance, will become the highest-ranking member of the millennial generation in the U.S. government.

There will be far fewer checks on Trump when he returns to the White House. He has plans to swiftly enact a sweeping agenda that would transform nearly every aspect of American government. His GOP critics in Congress have largely been defeated or retired. Federal courts are now filled with judges he appointed. The U.S. Supreme Court, which includes three Trump-appointed justices, issued a ruling earlier this year affording presidents broad immunity from prosecution.

Trump's language and behavior during the campaign sparked growing warnings from Democrats and some Republicans about shocks to democracy that his return to power would bring. He repeatedly praised strongman leaders, warned that he would deploy the military to target political opponents he labeled the "enemy from within," threatened to take action against news organizations for unfavorable coverage and suggested suspending the Constitution.

Some who served in his first White House, including Vice President Mike Pence and John Kelly, Trump's longest-serving chief of staff, either declined to endorse him or issued dire public warnings about his return to the presidency.

While Harris focused much of her initial message around themes of joy, Trump channeled a powerful sense of anger and resentment among voters.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

KING-HINDS

From page 1

Yesterday, King-Hinds was officially named the CNMI's delegate-elect after certified election results showed King-Hinds garnered over 40% of votes in the delegate race with 4,931 votes in her favor.

"I want to thank everyone who came out to vote," King-Hinds said in a press briefing following her victory.

When asked how she felt about going down in history as not only the first female U.S delegate to the CNMI, but also the first daughter of Tinian and Republican to accomplish such a feat, she said the thought never crossed her mind.

"That never crossed my mind throughout this process, and I think it never crossed my mind because I grew up watching my mom become one of the first, her and auntie Daling Ogumoro, to serve in the first CNMI Legislature. So, I didn't feel that this was about me as a woman, but I do believe that one of the reasons why I am here is the fact that so many women came out to support and wanted to feel that sense of empowerment. I hope that all the young girls, and young boys too, across the Commonwealth can see me and use me as an example that no matter how hard your life has been or what adversities you face growing up, if you work hard and you have a goal and you work towards that goal, nothing is impossible," she said.

When asked about her priorities, King-Hinds said as CNMI delegate, she will be taking a three-pronged approach to address the CNMI's issues.

"The first is to restore the tourism industry, the second is to immediately work on the CW-1 situation which is about to end here in 2029, and three work on trying to improve the cost of living by addressing the utilities issue," she said.

King-Hinds adds that separate from that she would like to be the type of delegate that consistently engages community stakeholders.

"After things get a little bit settled down, I want to just start reaching out to different stakeholders in the community to sit down and have a conversation about where gaps are, where are areas of opportunities, and work out a plan where we're not duplicating resources or manpower and just strategizing on how to bring a whole of government approach to some of these health and human services issues that is impacting our community," she said.

King-Hinds shared that her work as delegate has already begun.

"I've had several federal officials call so I had to return those calls and just begin that dialogue and conversation. So, the work is starting now in terms of reaching out to our federal partners and having these conversations about what the priorities are. The governor also reached out and gave his congratulations and I told him that we're going to have to sit down to discuss what his priorities are and how this position can assist for him to be able to accomplish some of those priorities and to also assist with the follow-ups for the 902 consultation and make sure that that stays as a hot topic agenda item that needs to be addressed because I do believe that those are very critical issues that that need to be addressed. We all work for the people. We have to put politics aside and I'm reaching across the all the aisles to be able to have those conversations," she said.

'Silver lining'

In a social media post entitled "Silver lining," Democratic Party of the Northern Mariana Islands delegate candidate Edwin K. Propst put into perspective his unsuccessful campaign for the delegate seat in the 2024 general elections.

"At least 4,067 amazing supporters went out and voted for me for the delegate race. We may have fallen short of winning, but we must be able to graciously accept the decision of our people, and give our delegate-elect Kimberlyn King-Hinds the opportunity and assistance to do well in Washington, D.C. If she does well, the CNMI does well. We must work together and succeed together for a prosperous Commonwealth."

The House floor leader, though, admitted that there's some disappointment after losing in the race for the CNMI's lone nonvoting delegate to U.S. Congress.

"There is sadness in my heart, as you can expect, of not winning, probably more so for my committee and supporters than myself. I felt earlier that I've let them down, that I didn't do enough, or couldn't be enough. But the kind messages and calls and visits I received made me realize that the friendship and support you gave me was not contingent on me winning. Your compassion and love and kindness are what motivates me to continue to do what I can to help our people, whether in or out of office."

Propst then reflected on his years of service in the CNMI House of Representative.

"You have given me a good 10 years as a House representative, and I will always cherish the work we've done together as partners in our community. That will continue, along with my love and dedication to you and your family. You have welcomed me and my family into your homes and hearts, and have been with me in my highs and lows in life. You've taught me what selfless service means, and that compassion and forgiveness are requisites of being a true public servant leader."

"If there is a silver lining to losing this election, it is that I do not have to be away from my wife Daisy and children while working in D.C., as we had decided they would stay here and I would see them when I would come back home every month or two. My family is my world and I know that would have been the most difficult part of this job... missing my son's soccer games, celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and other events," he said.

GRATEFUL

From page 1

my heartfelt congratulations to our NMI delegate-elect Kimberly King-Kinds."

He added his well wishes to Hinds, "I wish you all the best in your next chapter as you faithfully and diligently work to improve the lives of our people, especially the marginalized who are suffering and struggling to simply survive and for our economy to be resuscitated, grow, and prosper once again. Biba Marianas! *Guinaiya yan Tinayuyut hu ofresi håo mo'na* my NMI delegate."

Gonzales also thanked God and said he looks forward to his new life as a private citizen.

"I offer my humble thanksgiving to God for accepting His plan over mine, trusting in Him for sparing me again from the undoubtedly cruel realities and liabilities that come with being a public figure in a CNMI-wide elected position. I thank Him for ensuring that I have my private life as a private citizen with the liberty of enjoying my time with my three sons and dads. I will continue to help our children, youth, and families through community action as as a community organizer and freelance grants writer and business consultant. More importantly I will remain a servant of my faith as a lector. As always, I will enjoy my freedom to enjoy life wherever and whenever my love of adventure travels bring me."

Rayphand also shared his statement, "Our democratic system of electing our community's leadership is the best model and option there is, so despite a poor showing for me personally I appreciate and respect the process. Of course, we hoped (even expected) to do much bette—it stings that we didn't do well, but I am already and genuinely pulling for Kim (King-Hinds) to be at her best. I wish nothing but the best for the other candidates as well. The idea that any relatively unknown, average guy like me can even get on a ballot for a seat in U.S, Congress is a win in and of itself. Mostly I feel a real sense of gratitude for the opportunity along with the love and support shown by those who supported me in this venture including many who openly supported other candidates."

He shared that he hopes as the CNMI moves forward "to see new sources of funding streams in support of existing industry (i.e. tourism) and to facilitate new industry.

"Sky's the limit as far as what new industry might viably take root here. Ultimately we need to create more opportunities (particularly in the form of new jobs) for our citizens."

Saipan Tribune also reached out to Liana Hofschieder but received no reply as of press time, however she posted a short thank you on her social media page to all who showed her support in the race.

" Thank you for all your guidance and vote of confidence. And especially, un dangkulu na si yu'us ma'asi for your patience and unwavering support along this difficult and challenging journey. *Hu guaiya hamyu!"*

CEC

From page 1

commissioner Jose Kiyoshi, thanks to the adjustment, all election day and early voting ballots were tabulated rather quickly.

All unofficial results for early voting and election day ballots were released as early as 3am with tabulation results from Saipan's early voting period out at 9:38pm on election night.

"It was thanks to the recommendation of our executive director that as soon as the ballots come in and consolidated, we'd start tabulating the ballots. This is something we didn't do in the past. During the last election, the previous chair wanted everyone out of the building before starting tabulations and that took time," he said.

CEC board chair Susan Babauta shared that the adjustment was very efficient and effective.

However, CEC did face a hiccup after running absentee ballots through the tabulation machine.

"When it came to absentee, a lot of the ballots were not properly secured and when it was ran through the machine, the machine was rejecting it because of problems and so we had to manually count them," she said.

With the over 800 absentee ballots received, 26 ballots were rejected twice because they were either wet or folded.

This issue raised concerns with Democratic Party of the Northern Mariana Islands representatives who were present for the count. The Democratic Party said they would be issuing a letter.

Due to having to manually tabulate these ballots, CEC released unofficial absentee ballot results at around 4:41am.

Immediately after tabulating the absentee ballots, the CEC went into a meeting where they discussed the certification of results.

Tabulated results were officially certified as of 5:20am yesterday morning.

"I believe this year's election had a great turn out, especially the absentee ballots. We got about 90% of absentee ballots back," said Babauta.

Results

The highlight of this year's election was the delegate race which was won by CNMI Republican Party candidate Kimberlyn King-Hinds who gained 40.34% of votes or 4,931.

Following at a close second was Democratic Party candidate Edwin K. Propst with 33.27% of the votes or 4,067 votes.

Independent candidate John Oliver Gonzales came in third with 2,282 votes or 18.67% of votes followed by James Rayphand with 665 and Liana Hofscneider who garnered 280 total votes.

Meanwhile, in the senatorial race, Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) lost the Saipan seat to senator-elect, Rep. Manny Gregory Castro (D-Saipan), who garnered 5,178 votes or about 52.89% of votes.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

UOG

The presenters for the Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop, held Oct. 29-31 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, included assistive technology and behavioral health specialists from the National AgrAbility Project and state AgrAbility programs across the country.

Guam's first AgrAbility conference focuses on solutions to limitations and disabilities in farming

UOG

At the Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop on Oct. 29 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, Bill Field, project director for the National AgrAbility Project, shares how the program began 33 years ago and is helping farmers in 21 states overcome their disabilities and limitations and continue to farm.

UOG

University of Guam president Anita Borja Enriquez welcomes farmers, agricultural professionals, local and visiting behavioral health and assistive technology experts, Gov. Lourdes Leon Guerrero, and Congressman James Moylan to the first Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop, held Oct. 29-31, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

Farmer Focus, a University of Guam initiative working to enhance mental health support for the agricultural community, expanded the conversation on farmer support last week to include disabilities and limitations. From Oct. 29-31 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, the UOG Farmer Focus team hosted the island's first AgrAbility Regional Workshop, drawing an audience of 185, including local farmers, professionals who work directly with agricultural producers, and community leaders.

The National AgrAbility Project—a USDA-funded initiative based at Purdue University (Ind.) with programs in 21 states—helps farmers, ranchers, and agricultural workers overcome limitations and disabilities affecting their ability to carry out their work. Bill Field, the project's director, was on island for the Guam workshop.

"We've done two [stateside] studies under the AgrAbility umbrella," Field said, "and almost one out of five farmers identified something in their lives they couldn't do—it could be [because of] chronic issues or could be aging issues."

The programs and services under AgrAbility address limitations ranging from arthritis to visual and hearing impairments to loss of limbs and assist them with tools and services that can help them continue their livelihoods. In the program's 33 years, Field has witnessed numerous solutions that have kept farmers working, including installing lifts to get farmers on their tractors.

"I've watched guys who've had spinal cord injuries or lost their legs [while serving in the military], and you get them back in a tractor—it really changes their personality, like, 'If I can do this, I can do other things,'" Field said.

Presenters at the conference included assistive technology and behavioral health experts from universities in 10 states and from several partner universities in Taiwan, as well as from Guam's Department of Behavioral Health & Wellness Center and local nonprofits. Individual workshop sessions highlighted assistive technologies for farming with a disability and how to conduct assistive technology assessments on farms, how to recognize and respond to behavioral distress, support programs for caregivers, and how to overcome barriers in succession planning and explore agritourism opportunities.

"Issues such as aging, injuries, and chronic conditions like arthritis or back problems are common among farmers in Guam," said Dr. Kuan-Ju Chen, associate professor of agricultural economics with UOG Cooperative Extension & Outreach and project director of Farmer Focus along with extension agent Dr. Tim de La Cruz. "These obstacles can reduce productivity, increase safety risks, and compound the stress of farming in Guam's already challenging environment. This conference is an important start to the conversations and networking that will lead toward more solutions."

UOG

During a breakout session on Oct. 30, 2024, at the Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop, Ned Stoller, an agricultural engineer and assistive technology professional with the National AgrAbility Project, demonstrates a homemade assistive aid that could be used for harvesting or planting crops.

UOG

Sharon Bidaure, a farmer and manager of the Farmers' Cooperative Association of Guam, participates in a special tea-tasting presentation on mindfulness and stress relief at the Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop on Oct. 29, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Guam. The presentation was offered by National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan, a partner institution of UOG.

In one session, agricultural engineer and assistive technology professional Ned Stoller from the National AgrAbility Project, demonstrated 15 simple assistive devices, such as a padded kneeler with handle bars, shovel adapters, and ergonomic hand tools, that he made from materials that were either repurposed or purchased on island. AgrAbility has a "toolbox" at AgrAbility.org of nearly 2,000 adaptive aids that can be purchased or made.

"It gave me more ideas as to what you can use and how you can make [adaptive aids]—and it can be done," said Florence Cornwell, a workshop attendee who gardens several types of fruit. "It's amazing all the different things he made."

The AgrAbility workshop was preceded by an all-day Mental Health First Aid training, in which 15 social service and agricultural assistance professionals and 14 veterans were certified. They learned about common mental health disorders and substance use disorders, risk factors and warning signs, crisis and suicide intervention skills, and self-care and referral resources.

In her opening remarks, UOG president Anita Borja Enriquez welcomed the guests and dignitaries, including Governor of Guam Lourdes Leon Guerrero and Guam Congressman James Moylan. She highlighted how the event underscores UOG's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and the traditional CHamoru values of inadahi yan inagofli'e—to look out and take care of each other.

"What I love about today's inaugural event—I know when you walk away, you will be enriched with additional resources in terms of knowledge, new partners, and other capabilities that you can bring toward supporting the end result—AgrAbility," Enriquez said.

Since its launch in 2021, the Farmer Focus Project has carried out regional farmer and farm worker stress surveys as well as Farmer Focus Conferences in Guam in 2022, in Pohnpei in 2023, and in Yap earlier this year with plans to hold conferences on every major Micronesian island.

"It's not a natural component to talk about mental health and physical health—in terms of physical disabilities—when you're talking about the farmer. Because the job itself can be so taxing, [personal needs] become lower priority because you're constantly taking care of the land," said KristiAnna S. Whitman, project director for Guam Focus on Life at the Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, which has been a key sponsor in Farmer Focus events from the beginning. "I think the positive thing is that we're talking about it more and doing something about it."

The Farmer Focus Project at UOG is a sub-grantee of the USDA-funded Western Region Agricultural Stress Assistance Program at Washington State University. The Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop was also made possible by sponsorships from the Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, the J. Yang & Family Foundation, Honhui Group, and the Northern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District. ***(PR)***

UOG

Don McMoran, project director for the Western Regional Agricultural Stress Assistance Program and director of Skagit County Extension with Washington State University, visits with Guam growers during the Guam AgrAbility Regional Workshop on Oct. 29, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Securing housing for veterans, long a priority, shows progress

Too many of our nation's veterans struggle with homelessness and hopelessness. Across the U.S. and here in Virginia, we must continue efforts to give those who have served the support they need to have safe, rewarding lives when their time in uniform is over.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs said in September that it had found shelter for 43,116 homeless veterans between October 2023 and August of this year. That exceeded the agency's goal of housing 41,000 veterans in fiscal year 2024, which ended Sept. 30.

While it's great that the VA surpassed its goal for housing homeless veterans in the fiscal year that just ended, it's disturbing that so many of those who have served our country were without a place to live.

Homelessness is often related to other chronic problems shared by many veterans. Substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, disabilities, loneliness, depression and other mental and emotional health problems are all too common. Some veterans have trouble adjusting to the civilian workplace and finding jobs that utilize their skills.

All those problems contribute to the high suicide rate among veterans, especially older veterans. National statistics show that veterans are at a 57% higher risk of suicide than those who have never served. The National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report for 2023 said that about 17 veterans die by suicide each day, up 11% from the year before.

So it's worrying that over the last year, the national suicide hotline for veterans has been plagued with technical problems. Multiple service outages made it difficult and at times impossible for veterans in a crisis to get help.

The veterans' hotline—reached by dialing the national 988 hotline number and then pressing 1—has counselors working around the clock. Sometimes a veteran contemplating suicide needs immediate attention. Often, the veterans just need to talk to someone who will listen and suggest help so that the situation doesn't become critical.

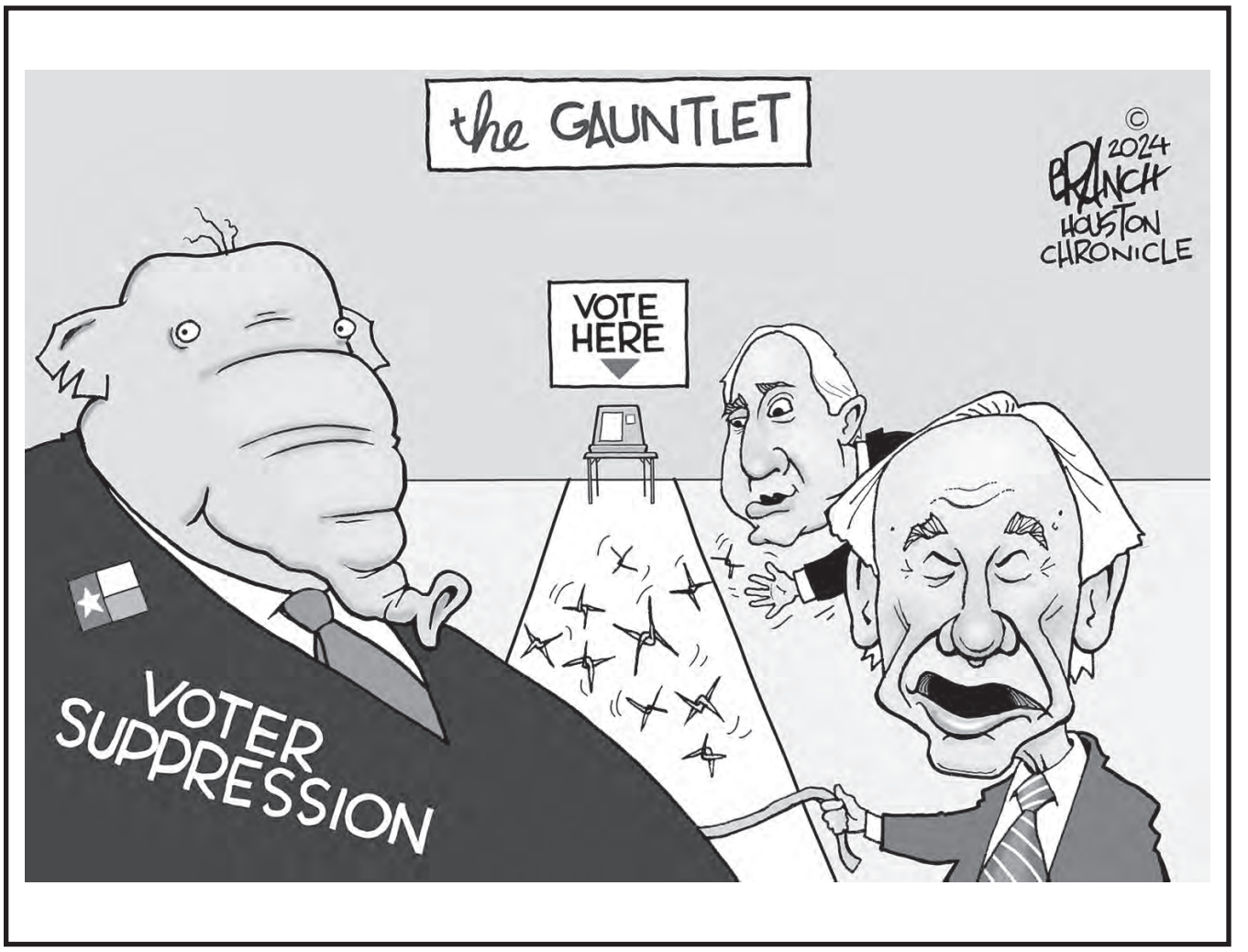
Sen. Jon Tester of Montana, chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, has urged the VA to make hotline service reliability a priority. It's tragic when a veteran feels so hopeless, but worse when that veteran calls for help and isn't heard.

Meanwhile, there is some progress in the battle against homelessness. Since early 2020, the number of homeless veterans has fallen by more than 4%; since 2010, the decline has been more than 52%.

The VA and the Biden-Harris administration have made preventing and eliminating veteran homelessness a top priority. The goal is to get veterans into housing first and then help them stay there.

Among other efforts, the VA in August awarded more than $800 million in grants through its programs for homeless veterans and veteran families. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the VA announced during the summer that changes are making it easier for more veterans to

See HOUSING on Page 7



Would Putin have invaded Ukraine in a second trump term?

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service.

One of Donald Trump's enduring assertions is that Vladimir Putin would never have dared to invade Ukraine if Trump had been reelected in 2020. It's an interesting hypothetical that relies on the premise that Putin, intimidated by Trump, was afraid to invade during Trump's four years in office, waiting to act—according to this theory—until the arrival of the weaker Biden administration.

But is this true, or does it make the common error of confusing correlation with causation?

As far back as 2005, Putin said that "the demise of the Soviet Union was the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century." A revanchist desire to reassert sovereignty over former Soviet vassals burned ardently in Putin's heart long before Trump came on the scene.

Putin's dream turned into action in 2008 when Russian troops invaded the former Soviet "republic" of Georgia. Then-President George W. Bush said, "Russia has invaded a sovereign neighboring state and threatens a democratic government elected by its people. Such an action is unacceptable in the 21st century."

But Bush, along with NATO and the EU, did accept it, and Russia still occupies 20% of Georgia's territory.

Ignoring the leader of her own party's failure to act, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, foreshadowing Trump, tried to shift the blame to John McCain's opponent: "After the Russian Army invaded the nation of Georgia, Senator Obama's reaction was one of indecision and moral equivalence, the kind of response that would only encourage Russia's Putin to invade Ukraine next."

Blaming Obama was politically tendentious, but at least she was right about Putin: In 2014, he invaded Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and sent operatives into eastern Ukraine, marking the slow start of the current war.

The West expressed its disapproval of the invasion and applied sanctions, but that was about it. As the war simmered in the background, the United States—including Trump—accepted the status quo until February 2022, when Putin marched on Kyiv.

Why didn't Putin attack Ukraine while Trump was still in office? Here's a better question: Why would he?

Tyranny can afford to be patient, especially since Trump was already taking actions that supported Putin's ambitions in Ukraine. Putin had no greater goal than weakening NATO, and Trump was publicly airing his half-hearted commitment to the alliance. Trump was supplying some weapons to Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, but Putin could see clearly that Trump's commitment was transactional ("I would like you to do us a favor, though." Yes, Trump really did say that.)

Furthermore, Trump was demonstrating confidence in Putin and giving him standing and credibility, most remarkably in 2018, when Trump was asked if he believed his own intelligence agencies regarding allegations of Russian meddling in our elections or if he believed Putin: "President Putin says it's not Russia. I don't see any reason why it would be."

Of course it was Russia. But why would Putin rock Trump's boat when it was already cruising in the direction he wanted? If Trump had been reelected in 2020, it's entirely possible—even likely—that Putin would have invaded Ukraine during Trump's second term, and he probably would have had a much easier time of it.

Trump contends that Putin waited until the "weak" Biden administration was in office before he invaded, but, ironically, Biden has mustered a defense of Ukraine among our NATO allies and the European Union that Trump was unlikely to have been able or willing to do.

Trump, vulnerable to flattery, inclined toward hubris and out of his league with brutal world-class autocrats, imagines that he can intimidate a ruthless, calculating tyrant such as Putin and frustrate his long game. Vladimir must be amused.

Putin, of course, hoped that Trump would win in 2020, and he tried to help him. When Trump lost, Putin recalculated.

As it turned out, he miscalculated. But tyranny is not only patient, it's persistent. The war in Ukraine has slowed down, but Putin can afford to temporize.

As you read this, we are in the middle of an important election. Who do you think that Putin, in his dark heart, hopes will win this time?

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Truth 68: IPI & CC—I told you so!

By AMBROSE M. BENNETT
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ambrose M. Bennett is an economist who minored in sociology, political scientist, a retired teacher, and former CNMI Board of Education member, a James Madison Fellow (U.S. constitutional scholar), a Fulbright-Hays and lifetime humanities scholar who resides in Kagman III in the CNMI.

The truth of the matter is I told you so about IPI and the need for the governor to take over the negotiations with IPI and true to my foresight IPI is now requesting to meet with the governor ignoring the Commonwealth Casino Commission that should have been gone over a year ago anyway. I knew the only thing left for the CNMI to do with IPI was basic decision making on how to move forward in the best interest of the People. Now the governor is on the spot to resolve the issue just like I suggested over a year ago, as each day we delay in resolving the IPI issue the sooner we can start to turn Garapan around. We have wasted or should I say lost over a year waiting on the CCC that is just waiting on IPI! Garapan has been nothing but a disaster ever since the Republicans call themselves "fixing something that didn't need fixing."

Garapan is our downtown district for the lack of a better term and I'm sure readers with common sense know that it is critical to our tourism future that we fix Garapan in a way that it will be attractive to all of our tourists from the various destination countries. History has already taught us that as the Chinese begin to come, the Japanese begin to leave—duh! Heck, we even helped destroy our Japanese tourism by not renewing the lease with the only Japanese hotel while we were politricked into giving the hotel to IPI for free and now look at the defunct Marianas Resort—Republicans! It was a double loss of two hotels with IPI, so we must also pick a side or at least be extremely tactful as it's virtually common knowledge that the Japanese and Chinese don't get along, so any plans must be cognizant of this all-important fact.

In fact, it is critical that I reassert the need to one gaming commission to handle all the gambling that is taking place within the CNMI, as separate commissioners on each island have proven to be more of a scam than actually promoting a productive gaming industry that is virtually nonexistent, except for the poker machines that are not monitored and checked for fair play. I used to bring machines in from Belgium to sell and install that were similar types of gaming machines on Guam and I know for a fact that these machines can be tightened and loosened to allow for a high to a low winning or losing percentage—in other words, they can be fixed! So, who if anyone is doing the due diligence random checking of these machines and making sure the machines are not too tight (winning percentage) and that they reflect the total amounts on the GBR for each quarter—it's called accountability! The CNMI needs a gaming commission for all if we are to continue with gambling.

We have only two commissions that are being paid extremely high salaries and it is just interesting that neither of these commissions are worth the paper and ink that established them. We may forever be losing money with the Commonwealth Cannabis Commission that we don't need and the casino commission has been stalling and even being negligent when it comes to doing what is in the best interest of the people. Why isn't there anything filed in court for the people, as we only hear about this never-ending license thing when it's clear IPI violated our contract rendering IPI null and void—it's really that simple—be gone IPI. I'm sure citizens agree we must turn the page for the new and better! But kudos to Rep. Flores for at least trying to address the problem!

We the people desperately need to move on and beyond IPI that is literally holding our downtown district in limbo with Chinese decorations and a white elephant hotel. Just as I said over a year ago, the governor needs to take over the negotiations and expedite the resolution for the people to move on with the two structures in our downtown district. Stop letting the CCC stall around with our future and find a way for the people to establish new beginnings in Garapan—it's just that simple. Maybe one day they will learn to listen—I told you so!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Shifting voting patterns in the CNMI: Open-minded choices, social media impact, and economic accountability

Recent elections in the CNMI have revealed a shift in voter behavior that may reflect a growing sense of empowerment and open-mindedness among residents. Unlike previous election cycles, voters are increasingly focused on individual candidates and issues, rather than being bound by party loyalty or geographic affiliation. This change appears to stem from a range of factors, including a heightened awareness fueled by social media, and a desire for accountability amidst economic hardships that have affected the livelihoods of countless residents.

1. A new wave of open-minded voters:
Today's CNMI voters are proving to be more open-minded, focusing on candidates who they feel will bring about meaningful change, regardless of political affiliation or traditional loyalties. Many are now prioritizing candidates who address their needs, promising a responsive approach to the community's unique challenges. This reflects a shift toward independent thinking and an increasingly diverse electorate that is willing to consider all options to ensure better representation and more effective leadership.

2. Social media as a catalyst for change:
Social media has become an influential force in CNMI politics, with platforms like Facebook and Instagram playing central roles in mobilizing, informing, and empowering voters. Campaigns have used these platforms to engage with residents, share their messages, and address community concerns in real-time. This new form of digital engagement allows for open discussion and has been instrumental in spreading awareness, amplifying voices, and breaking down long-standing political barriers.

For many residents, social media offers a more transparent look at candidates, giving them the information needed to make informed decisions. Voters can now see candidates' responses to issues, hear from others impacted by their decisions, and collectively hold leaders accountable. This access to information has leveled the playing field, especially for younger and first-time voters, allowing them to participate actively and advocate for change.

3. Economic hardships and demand for accountability:
A driving factor behind the changing voting patterns may be the economic toll that recent policies have had on residents and their families. Many people have faced layoffs, while others endured reduced work hours close to two years, creating a significant strain on households and the CNMI economy. These job and hour reductions have led to financial uncertainty, impacting not only individuals but also the broader community as families struggled to meet their needs.

For these residents, voting this election was not only a civic duty but a chance to demand accountability from leaders whose policies affected their jobs, income, and stability. This economic strain has motivated many to seek candidates who will prioritize economic recovery, job security, and community well-being, rather than merely towing party lines. It represents a powerful reminder of the direct impact that leadership decisions have on people's lives—and the expectation that those leaders must be held accountable.

4. A more engaged and determined electorate:
The recent CNMI elections signal the emergence of an electorate driven by real, lived experiences and a desire for substantial change. Voters came out with determination, setting aside traditional affiliations in favor of candidates who they believe will better serve their needs. This shift could signify a new direction for CNMI politics, one in which leaders are chosen based on transparency, empathy, and accountability.

As this trend continues, CNMI's political landscape may become more focused on community-centered goals and solutions that reflect the immediate needs of the people. Candidates will likely need to address economic recovery, job security, and social welfare as primary concerns to maintain support. This evolving voter base sends a clear message: residents expect leaders to deliver positive, tangible outcomes that support the community's stability and resilience.

Conclusion
The CNMI's changing voting patterns highlight a shift toward open-minded, values-driven decision-making. The influence of social media, combined with economic hardships and a demand for accountability, has reshaped the electorate's priorities. If these trends persist, CNMI may be on the brink of a new era in politics—one where leaders are chosen not by their affiliations but by their commitment to addressing the needs and aspirations of the people they serve.

As voters, we bear the responsibility of demanding transparency and accountability from those who seek to lead us.

Thank you for your time and attention. Let us remain vigilant and committed to holding our leaders accountable.

Frankie Manglona
Dandan Village

HOUSING

From page 6

get help through their joint housing program.

These efforts are important, because the percentage of veterans who are homeless is disproportionately high. About 10% of Americans have served in the military, but nearly 13% of homeless adults are veterans.

Virginia, with its large veteran population, has worked hard to reduce homelessness. Back in 2015, Virginia became the first state to meet the federal government's definition of effectively ending homelessness among veterans — every known veteran had a home except those who declined help. Concentrated efforts in the Peninsula and South Hampton Roads helped reach that milestone.

Then came the disruptions of COVID and soaring housing costs, and the numbers of homeless veterans began to rise again.

Whether they were drafted into military service, as is the case with many older veterans, or volunteered to serve since the draft ended in 1973, our veterans deserve thanks, respect and honor. They also deserve continuing support to help them build safe, healthy lives—lives with decent homes and hope for a fulfilling future.

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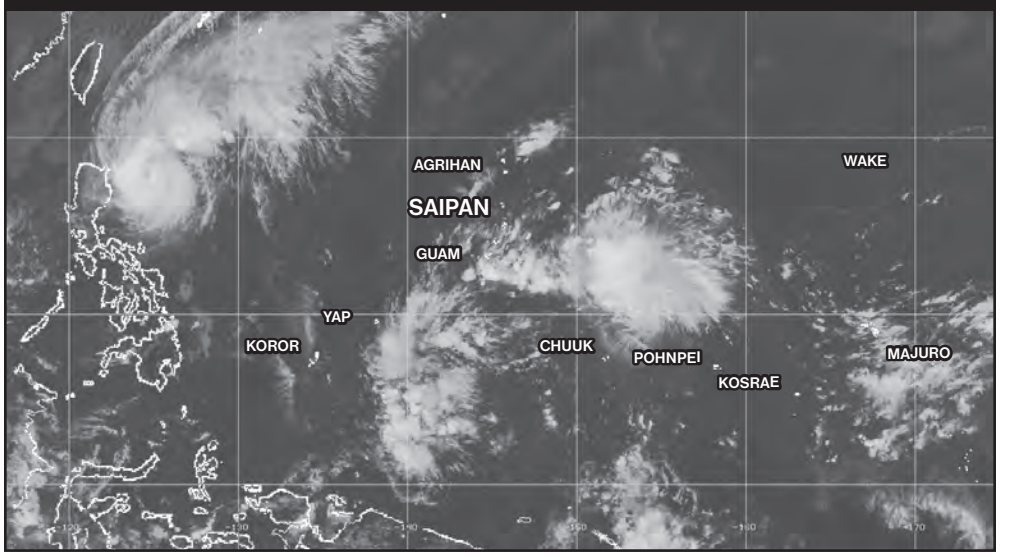
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy. East northeast wind 14 to 16 mph, with gusts as high as 23 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.	Scattered showers. Partly sunny. East wind around 16 mph, with gusts as high as 23 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.	A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny.	A chance of showers. Partly sunny.	A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy.
85° 79°	85° 79°	85° 80°	85° 80°	86° 80°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:29 AM WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trough is moving through the Marianas today and is expected to bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms with it. Currently, radar imagery shows a thin line of shower passing Guam and Rota. One cell to the far southeast waters of Guam has had a few lightning flashes. Scattered showers are anticipated through the beginning of next week. Seas will remain between 5 to 7 feet. Winds are expected to be gentle to moderate through the week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Cloudy	84° / 78°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	84° / 78°
Yap	Sunny	84° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Sunny	86° / 78°
Kosrae	Sunny	86° / 78°
Majuro	Cloudy	85° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:16 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	11:03 AM	10:25 PM	-
Friday	11:54 AM	11:24 PM	-
Saturday	12:42 PM	-	-
Sunday	-	12:22 AM	1:26 PM
Monday	-	1:19 AM	2:07 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Showers	66° / 61°
Beijing	Fair	61° / 32°
Hong Kong	Fair	82° / 72°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	83° / 72°
London	Sunny	52° / 43°
Los Angeles	Showers	63° / 55°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 77°
Melbourne	Cloudy	57° / 48°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	81° / 74°
New York	Rain	72° / 50°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	72° / 62°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	52° / 36°
Busan	Sunny	66° / 44°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Salem	Sunny	83° / 60°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	58° / 44°
Seoul	Sunny	59° / 32°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	67° / 57°
Washington, DC	Fair	76° / 55°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
5:01 AM	Low Tide	-0.29
12:58 PM	High Tide	1.64
6:09 PM	Low Tide	1.34
9:49 PM	High Tide	1.50

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	1:20PM	4:00PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA183	7:55PM	9:50PM	Daily
UA193	7:55PM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Palau

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA076/183	9:50AM	9:50PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	2:30AM	6:25AM	Daily
7C3212	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	3:05AM	5:55AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	10:05PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	00:40AM	6:25AM	3, 6
PR110	10:05PM	3:55AM+1	Daily
UA192	10:40PM	6:30AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA184	10:55PM	4:40AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184	00:40AM	8:50AM	3, 6 via Guam
UA192/174	10:40PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:55PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3407	11:20PM	3:30PM+1	Daily

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3211	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily
TW307	8:00PM	1:30AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	6:25PM	1:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan celebrates 2nd anniversary

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is excited to celebrate its second anniversary, offering guests a variety of celebratory promotions across the resort throughout November. From local staycation packages to enticing restaurant deals, the resort is bringing the Saipan community together for a memorable month.

Local room packages:

■ 2 for 2 Deal Room Promotion—Stay 2 nights for only $242 and enjoy a special surprise gift at check-in from Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan! If you plan to extend your stay, you can add more nights at only $121 per additional night.

■ Local Resident Room Offer—Starting at just $125 per night depending on room type, add breakfast for two for only $20 more, plus early check-in at 10am to start the fun even earlier.

■ Dreamcation Suite Promotion—Upgrade your stay with a suite room at $240 + tax per night, including breakfast for two and early check-in. You'll receive luxe comfort with local perks.

Dining and bar specials:

■ Double Points for The Terrace Club Members—Now through Nov. 14, The Terrace Club Saipan members will earn double points at any resort restaurant or bar. Don't miss the chance to stack up your points and earn rewards quicker during this exclusive promotion.

■ Sunday Brunch at The Terrace Restaurant —Enjoy a memorable Sunday brunch at The Terrace from 11am to 2pm! Savor a delicious spread of island-inspired dishes, international favorites, and free-flowing alcoholic beverages. Priced at $65 for adults and $25 for children, with an additional 15% discount for Terrace Club members—perfect for a relaxed Sunday with family and friends.

■ Saipan Signature Cocktails at Mari Bar—Cheers to two years with signature cocktails at just $4.99 each all month long, including the Crowne Sunset, Sea Breeze, Managaha Island, Forbidden Frizz, and Banzai Cooler—all inspired by Saipan.

■ Social Event at Market Place—Join us for a chance to earn a free coffee from now through November 14! Visit our social account on Instagram and Facebook: @theterraceclubsaipan to find out how you can receive your free coffee today.

■ For a unique dining experience, Mai Teppanyaki is offering sake or wine pairing packages under its Holiday Promotion starting at $95 per person, making it a perfect choice for special gatherings. You won't want to miss a six-course teppanyaki experience from now through Dec. 30. Be sure to book your table 24 hours prior and gather your group for a minimum of six people to dine in.

To commemorate this two-year milestone, all guests and visitors are invited to leave their mark at the Make Your Memory Wall, where they can snap a photo or write down their favorite memory on a card and join the celebration.

"We're grateful to celebrate our second anniversary with the Saipan community and to provide these special offers as a thank-you to our guests," said Clayton Darlington, general manager at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. "It's an exciting time, and we're looking forward to creating lasting memories with our guests throughout November and onwards."

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan was recently recognized as Micronesia's Leading Resort for 2024 and Best in the Marianas 2024 for the Best Buffet (The Terrace Restaurant), Best Ballroom, Best Wedding Venue, and Best Party Venue. These awards and recognition show a reflection of the resort's dedication to creating exceptional guest experiences.

For more information about these promotions and to book your stay, contact Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan at (670) 234-6412 or visit https://tinyurl.com/2yearscprs. Follow us on social media! Facebook/Instagram: @crowneplazaresortsaipan and @theterraceclubsaipan.

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is a 422-room hotel located in Garapan. Guests will be greeted by the resort's lush tropical gardens and panoramic view of Micro Beach, with Crowne Plaza's warm and friendly hospitality ensuring a seamless arrival. ***(PR)***

CPRS

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's 2 for 2 Deal Room Promotion offers a stay of two nights for only $242 plus a special surprise gift at check-in from Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

CPRS

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's Memory Wall.

China files complaint at WTO over EU tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles

GENEVA (AP)—China has moved forward with a complaint at the World Trade Organization that alleges the European Union has improperly set anti-subsidy tariffs on new Chinese-made electric vehicles.

The Chinese diplomatic mission to the WTO said Monday it "strongly opposes" the measures and insisted its move was designed to protect the EV industry and support a global transition toward greener technologies.

The European bloc announced last month it was imposing import duties of up to 35% on electric vehicles from China, alleging the Chinese exports were unfairly undercutting EU industry prices. The duties are set to remain in force for five years, unless an amicable deal can be struck.

Electric vehicles have become a major flashpoint in a broader trade dispute over the influence of Chinese government subsidies on European markets and Beijing's burgeoning exports of green technology to the bloc.

China alleged that the EU move amounted to "an abuse of trade remedies" that violates WTO rules, and amounted to "protectionist" measures, according to the mission's statement.

Valdis Dombrovskis, the executive vice president of the EU's Commission, last week called the steps "proportionate and targeted" and were aimed to underpin fair market practices and support the bloc's industrial base.

Strike at Boeing was part of new era of labor activism long in decline at US work places

Aircraft assembly workers at Boeing factories near Seattle and elsewhere voted to end a seven-week strike overnight.

Leaders of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers district in Seattle said 59% of members who cast ballots agreed to approve the company's fourth formal offer and the third put to a vote.

Organized labor has made itself heard over the past couple of years, and the number of actions taken by unions has soared. There were 470 work stoppages (466 strikes and four lockouts) involving approximately 539,000 workers last year, according to Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. The nearly 500 work stoppages resulted in approximately 24,874,522 strike days.

While the number of work stoppages increased by only 9% between 2022 and 2023, the number of workers involved in those work stoppages skyrocketed 141% to well over a half million workers, according to Cornell.

Unions including the UAW, the Teamsters and, most recently, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, say they made the sacrifices asked of them by their companies during the pandemic and previous periods of distress for different economic sectors. Workers have stood firm on demands of late, however, saying that now is the time for companies, which have been consistently posting billions of dollars in profits every year, to catch up and pay workers what they are owed.

Here's a look at some recent standoffs between corporate America and workers.

Late last year the United Auto Workers union overwhelmingly ratified new contracts with Ford and Stellantis, along with a similar deal with General Motors, that would raise pay across the industry and force automakers to absorb higher costs.

The agreements, which run through April 2028, ended contentious talks that began in the summer of 2022 and led to six-week-long strikes at all three automakers.

The new contract agreements were widely seen as a victory for the UAW. The companies agreed to dramatically raise pay for top-scale assembly plant workers, with increases and cost-of-living adjustments that would translate into 33% wage gains.

Top assembly plant workers were to receive immediate 11% raises and would earn roughly $42 an hour when the contracts expire in April of 2028.

Under the agreements, the automakers also ended many of the multiple tiers of wages they had used to pay different workers. They also agreed in principle to bring new electric-vehicle battery plants into the national union contract.

UPS workers that are members of the Teamsters union approved a tentative contract with the package delivery company last year. The run-up to the approval was acrimonious, with labor negotiations that threatened to disrupt package deliveries for millions of businesses and households nationwide.

After negotiations broke down in early July 2023, Atlanta-based UPS reached a contract agreement with the Teamsters just days before an Aug. 1 deadline.

At the time the agreement was struck, full- and part-time union workers were set to get $2.75 more per hour in 2023, and $7.50 more in total by the end of the five-year contract. Starting hourly pay for part-time employees also got bumped up to $21, but some workers said that fell short of their expectations.

UPS said at the time that by the end of the new contract, the average UPS full-time driver would make about $170,000 annually in pay and benefits. It was not clear how much of that figure benefits accounted for.

As part of the deal, the delivery company also agreed to make Martin Luther King Jr. Day a full holiday, end forced overtime on drivers' days off and stop using driver-facing cameras in cabs, among a host of other issues. It eliminated a two-tier wage system for drivers and agreements on safety issues were also reached, including equipping more trucks with air conditioning.

In September video game performers reached agreements with 80 individual games that have signed interim or tiered budget agreements with the performers' union and accepted the artificial intelligence provisions they have been seeking.

The performers had been striking for over a month. ***(AP)***

World

A WEEK AFTER SPAIN'S FLOODS

Families hope 89 unaccounted for still alive

SEDAVI, Spain (AP)— Francisco Murgui went out to try to salvage his motorbike when the water started to rise.

He never came back.

One week after catastrophic flooding devastated eastern Spain, María Murgui still holds out hope that her missing father is alive.

"He was like many people in town who went out to get their car or motorbike to safety," the 27-year-old told The Associated Press. "The flash flood caught him outside, and he had to cling to a tree in order to escape drowning. He called us to tell us he was fine, that we shouldn't worry."

But when María set out into the streets of Sedaví to try to rescue him from the water washing away everything in its path, he was nowhere to be found.

"He held up until 1 in the morning," she said. "By 2, I went outside with a neighbor and a rope to try to locate him. But we couldn't find him. And since then, we haven't heard anything about him."

Spanish authorities issued their first tally of the missing on Tuesday when a Valencia court said that 89 people are confirmed to be unaccounted for.

The number only corresponds to the eastern Valencia region, where 211 of the 217 confirmed deaths took place when entire communities were swamped by tsunami-like floods on Oct. 29-30. Most people were caught off guard by the deluge. Regional authorities have been heavily criticized for having issued alerts to mobile phones some two hours after the disaster had started.

AP

A person walks through a street with piled furniture and rubbish on the sides in an area affected by floods in Paiporta, Valencia, Spain, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.

The Superior Court of Valencia said that the figure was based on those cases whereby families had provided information and biological samples of their unlocated loved ones. It added that there could easily be more missing people whose families have not officially reported to authorities.

The court said that 133 of the dead had been identified using fingerprints or DNA samples. Another 62 bodies remained unidentified.

Spanish state broadcaster RTVE has shown a steady stream of appeals by people searching for family members.

María Murgui herself has posted a missing person's message on social media with a photo of her father, a 57-year-old retiree.

"This is like riding a rollercoaster. Sometimes I feel very bad and sometimes I feel better. I try to stay positive," she said. "This truly is madness. We don't know what else to do. Neither does anybody else in town."

Meanwhile, the gargantuan recovery efforts in Sedaví and dozens of other communities slowly moved forward.

The central government on Tuesday approved a 10.6-billion-euro ($11.6-billion) relief package for 78 communities where at least one person has died from the floods. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez compared it to the measures taken during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The package includes direct payments of 20,000 euros to 60,000 euros ($21,800-65,000) to owners of damaged homes, and financial aid for businesses and municipal governments.

"We have a lot of work left to do, and we know it," Sánchez said.

Sánchez said he will ask the European Union to help pay for the relief, saying "it is time for the European Union to help."

The floods have left behind post-apocalyptic scenes.

In town after town, streets are still covered with thick brown mud and mounds of ruined belongings, clumps of rotting vegetation and wrecked vehicles. A stench arises from the muck.

Ukrainian troops have engaged with N. Korean units for the 1st time in Russia, an official says

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)— Ukrainian troops have for the first time engaged with North Korean units that were recently deployed to help Russia in the war with its neighbor, Ukraine's defense minister said Tuesday.

Another Kyiv official said Ukraine's army fired artillery at North Korean soldiers in Russia's Kursk border region.

The comments were the first official reports that Ukrainian and North Korean forces have engaged in combat, following a deployment that has given the war a new complexion as it approaches its 1,000-day milestone.

Neither claim could be independently confirmed.

The Ukrainian and North Korean troops engaged in "small-scale" fighting that amounted to the start of Pyongyang's direct involvement in Europe's biggest conflict since World War II, Ukraine's Defense Minister Rustem Umerov told South Korea's public broadcaster KBS in an interview.

North Korean soldiers are mixed with Russian troops and are misidentified on their uniforms, Umerov was quoted as saying by KBS. That makes it hard to say whether there were any North Korean casualties, he said.

Umerov reportedly said he expects that five North Korean units, each consisting of about 3,000 soldiers, will be deployed to the Kursk area.

Meanwhile, Andrii Kovalenko, the head of the counter-disinformation branch of Ukraine's Security Council, said "the first North Korean troops have already been shelled, in the Kursk region."

He provided no further details.

Western governments had expected that the North Korean soldiers would be sent to Russia's Kursk border region, where a 3-month-old incursion by the Ukrainian army is the first occupation of Russian territory since World War II and has embarrassed the Kremlin.

U.S., South Korean and Ukrainian intelligence assessments say up to 12,000 North Korean combat troops are being sent by Pyongyang to the war under a pact with Moscow.

The Pentagon said Monday that at least 10,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia near Ukraine's border.

More troops from North Korea's 1.3-million-strong army may be slated for deployment in Russia, according to an analysis published Tuesday by the European Council on Foreign Relations, an international think tank.

The ramifications extend far beyond Europe, it said.

"Despite integration challenges — including communication barriers and differing military doctrines — the deployment of North Korean troops to Russia represents a significant shift in European and Asian security relations," the analysis said. "For the first time in generations, troops from East Asia are actively engaging in a European conflict."

Israel's Netanyahu dismisses defense minister as wars rage

JERUSALEM (AP)— Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday dismissed his popular defense minister, Yoav Gallant, in a surprise announcement that came as the country is embroiled in wars on multiple fronts across the region. The move sparked protests across the country, including a mass gathering that paralyzed central Tel Aviv.

Netanyahu and Gallant have repeatedly been at odds over the war in Gaza. But Netanyahu had avoided firing his rival before taking the step as the world's attention was focused on the U.S. presidential election. Netanyahu cited "significant gaps" and a "crisis of trust" in his Tuesday evening announcement as he replaced Gallant with a longtime loyalist.

"In the midst of a war, more than ever, full trust is required between the prime minister and defense minister," Netanyahu said. "Unfortunately, although in the first months of the campaign there was such trust and there was very fruitful work, during the last months this trust cracked between me and the defense minister."

In the early days of the war, Israel's leadership presented a unified front as it responded to Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack. But as the war has dragged on and spread to Lebanon, key policy differences have emerged.

While Netanyahu has called for continued military pressure on Hamas, Gallant had taken a more pragmatic approach, saying that military force has created the necessary conditions for at least a temporary diplomatic deal that could bring home hostages held by the militant group.

In a late-night news conference broadcast on national TV, Gallant said that he had disagreed with Netanyahu over three main issues: the need to end controversial exemptions from the military draft for ultra-Orthodox men, the urgent need for a hostage deal and the need to establish an official commission of inquiry into the political and security failures of Oct. 7, when Hamas militants stormed into Israel and killed 1,200 people and took 250 others hostage. Israel estimates that about 100 hostages remain in captivity, only about 65 of them still alive.

With military service compulsory for most Jews, Gallant said that drafting the ultra-Orthodox was both an issue of fairness and security at a time when Israel faces so many challenges.

He said a hostage deal was needed "as quickly as possible, when they are still alive" and said there will be "no forgiveness" for neglecting them. And he said a full investigation into the events of Oct. 7 was the only way to ensure the government would learn the proper lessons. Netanyahu has rejected calls for an inquiry, saying it should only take place when the war is over.

Gallant ended his statement by honoring the soldiers serving in the army and those who have died in the wars. He held up his hand and saluted as he walked away from the podium.

Many of the families of the hostages, along with tens of thousands of people who have joined anti-government protests, accuse Netanyahu of scuttling a deal in order to maintain his hold on power.

Netanyahu's hard-line partners have threatened to bring down the government if he makes concessions to Hamas, raising the risk of early elections at a time when the prime minister's popularity is low. This week, authorities announced the arrest of a Netanyahu aide on suspicion of leaking classified information to foreign media that gave the prime minister political cover as hostage talks fell apart.

"Firing Gallant in the middle of a war is an act of madness," opposition leader Yair Lapid said on X. "Netanyahu is selling Israel's security and the Israeli army soldiers for a disgraceful political survival."

Israel's president, Isaac Herzog, whose largely ceremonial office is meant to help unify the country, called the dismissal "the last thing Israel needs."

The grassroots forum representing hostage families said Gallant's dismissal is "a direct continuation of the 'efforts' to torpedo the abductee deal."

Life & Style

FOR HALLOWEEN VIDEO ASKING VIEWERS TO VOTE

Beyoncé channels Pamela Anderson in 'Baywatch'

NEW YORK (AP)—In a new video posted early Election Day, Beyoncé channels Pamela Anderson in the television program "Baywatch"—red one-piece swimsuit and all—and asks viewers to vote.

In the two-and-a-half-minute clip, set to most of "Bodyguard," a four-minute cut from her 2024 country album "Cowboy Carter," Beyoncé cosplays as Anderson's character before concluding with a simple message, written in white text: "Happy Beylloween," followed by "Vote."

AP

Beyonce appears at a campaign event for Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris in Houston, on Oct. 25, 2024.

At a rally for Donald Trump in Pittsburgh on Monday night, the former president spoke dismissively about Beyoncé's appearance at a Kamala Harris rally in Houston in October, drawing boos for the megastar from his supporters.

"Beyoncé would come in. Everyone's expecting a couple of songs. There were no songs. There was no happiness," Trump said.

She did not perform — unlike in 2016, when she performed at a presidential campaign rally for Hillary Clinton in Cleveland – but she endorsed Harris and gave a moving speech, initially joined onstage by her Destiny's Child bandmate Kelly Rowland.

"I'm not here as a celebrity, I'm not here as a politician. I'm here as a mother," Beyoncé said.

"A mother who cares deeply about the world my children and all of our children live in, a world where we have the freedom to control our bodies, a world where we're not divided," she said at the rally in Houston, her hometown.

"Imagine our daughters growing up seeing what's possible with no ceilings, no limitations," she continued. "We must vote, and we need you."

The Harris campaign has taken on Beyonce's track "Freedom," a cut from her landmark 2016 album "Lemonade," as its anthem.

Harris used the song in July during her first official public appearance as a presidential candidate at her campaign headquarters in Delaware. That same month, Beyoncé's mother, Tina Knowles, publicly endorsed Harris for president.

Beyoncé gave permission to Harris to use the song, a campaign official who was granted anonymity to discuss private campaign operations confirmed to The Associated Press.

Tito Jackson's funeral is held at cemetery where brother Michael and father Joe are buried

GLENDALE, Calif. (AP)—A funeral was held for Tito Jackson at the same Southern California cemetery where his brother Michael Jackson and his father Joe Jackson are buried.

Family and friends gathered Monday to mourn the singer and guitarist for the Jackson 5 and the Jacksons at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, about seven weeks after his death at age 70. He lived in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Photos from several media outlets showed that mourners included siblings Marlon and La Toya Jackson, as well as Michael's children Paris and Bigi Jackson.

Tito Jackson's sons said on Instagram that after the service, a smaller family ceremony was held a few miles away at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, where he was laid to rest.

AP

Tito Jackson, a member of the famed Jackson 5, poses for a portrait in Los Angeles, July 24, 2019, to promote his solo project, a new version of his 2017 song "One Way Street."

Tito Jackson's Sept. 15 death was the second among the nine Jackson siblings after Michael Jackson died at age 50 in 2009. Tito Jackson was the third child of Joe and Katherine Jackson. His mother is among his survivors and is now 94.

Michael Jackson was laid to rest 15 years ago in a mausoleum at the Glendale cemetery near Los Angeles, which is also the burial place of Elizabeth Taylor and Walt Disney. Joe Jackson was buried there in 2018.

Ruby slippers from 'The Wizard of Oz' are for sale nearly 2 decades after they were stolen

DALLAS (AP)—A pair of ruby slippers worn by Judy Garland in "The Wizard of Oz" is on the auction block nearly two decades after a thief stole the iconic shoes, convinced they were adorned with real jewels.

Online bidding has started and will continue through Dec. 7, Heritage Auctions in Dallas announced in a news release Monday.

The auction company received the sequin-and-bead-bedazzled slippers from Michael Shaw, the memorabilia collector who originally owned the footwear at the heart of the beloved 1939 musical. Shaw had loaned the shoes in 2005 to the Judy Garland Museum in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

That summer, someone smashed through a display case and stole the slippers. Their whereabouts remained a mystery until the FBI recovered them in 2018.

AP

Ruby slippers once worn by Judy Garland in the "The Wizard of Oz," are displayed at a news conference, Sept. 4, 2018, at the FBI office in Brooklyn Center, Minn.

Now the museum is among those vying for the slippers, which were one of several pairs Garland wore during the filming. Only four remain.

Grand Rapids raised money for the slippers at its annual Judy Garland festival. The funds will supplement the $100,000 set aside this year by Minnesota lawmakers to purchase the slippers.

Friend's drunk dials are too much to handle

DEAR ABBY
BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have been friends with a couple for 30 years. Both are alcoholics. They function, work at farmers' markets, are sociable, have a house and pay their bills. Yet, at least once, maybe twice a month, they get totally wasted and the wife calls me and rambles on incoherently. I suspect they get drunk even more frequently, but, thankfully, I don't get a call every time they are on a binge.

I have been in terrible relationships in which I drank too much to numb myself. Thankfully, I have been out of such toxicity for years. But I'm having increasing difficulty dealing with these drunken phone calls. I suspect I'm the only person my friend calls because she knows few others would understand her slurred babble. I'm weary from these calls. How do I deflect them?

TIRED EAR IN ARIZONA

DEAR TIRED EAR: Put an end to those calls by being frank with your friend about the effect they have on you. Do this while she is sober. Tell her you do not want her calling you after she has been drinking because her speech is so slurred that you can't understand what she's saying. Say if it happens again you will hang up the phone, and if it does, follow through. Let her calls go to voicemail. If you would like to maintain any sort of relationship with this couple, see them socially only when they are (reasonably) sober.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: When I was a teenager, my immigrant grandparents brought back hand-knit sweaters from Ireland, the country in which they were born, for everyone in our family. I cherish mine and take care of it, even though I've outgrown it.

Years later, a close friend asked to borrow this sweater for her neighbor's child, who needed "something Irish" for a show-and-tell event at school. The kids were asked to bring items that had to do with Ireland. When I refused to loan my heirloom sweater, my friend told me she'd already promised her neighbor she could borrow it. She became very angry, accused me of being selfish and hasn't spoken to me for a couple months.

We live in the same town, so I run into her sometimes. She's cordial but distant and clearly still upset with me. Bear in mind that I hardly know my friend's neighbor -- the one who wanted to borrow my sweater for her child. But even if I did, I wouldn't loan this heirloom to anyone. Was I wrong?

SENTIMENTAL IN MICHIGAN

DEAR SENTIMENTAL: You were neither selfish nor wrong! Your "friend" was out of line. She should never have promised anyone the use of property that wasn't hers. And for her to ice you now for refusing to give it to her and risk that something so precious to you could be damaged is plenty nervy. My advice is to follow her example. Be cordial but distant, and do not permit her to make you the bad guy for saying no.

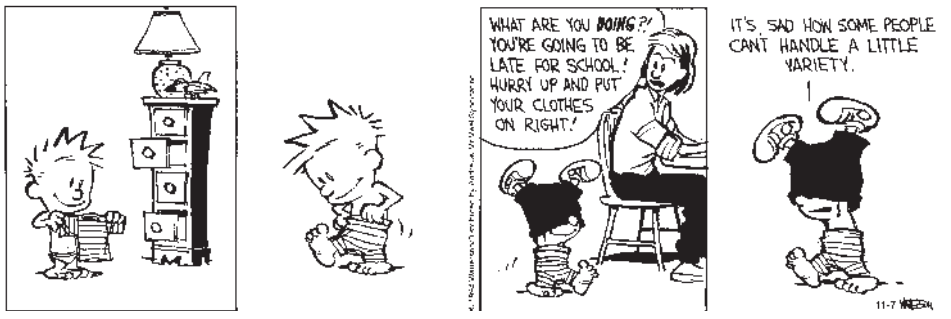
■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

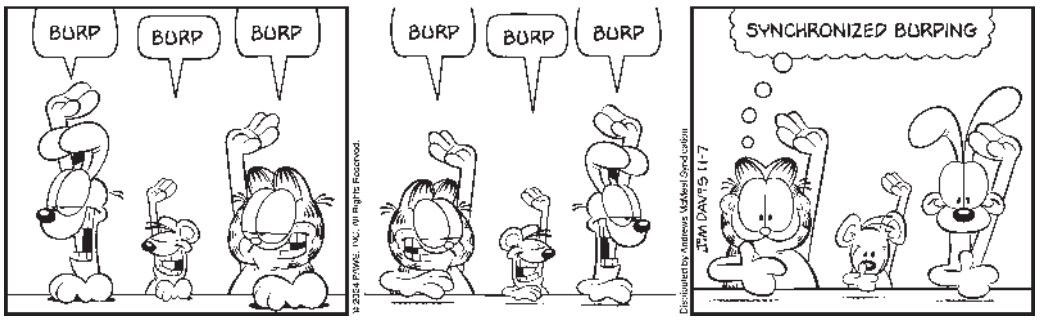
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL! HURRY UP AND PUT YOUR CLOTHES ON RIGHT!
IT'S SAD HOW SOME PEOPLE CAN'T HANDLE A LITTLE VARIETY.

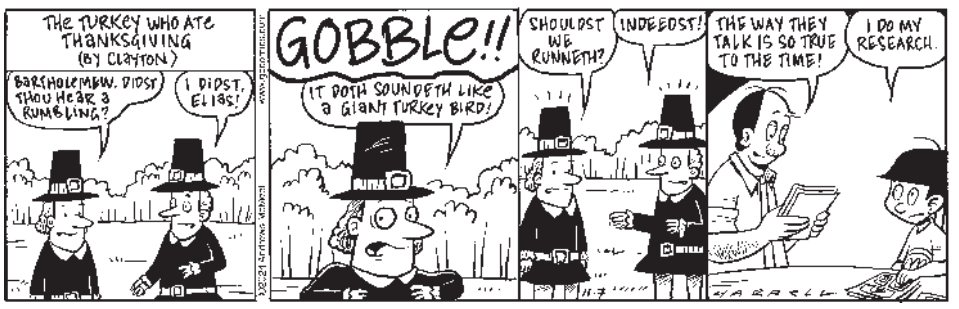
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THE TURKEY WHO ATE THANKSGIVING (BY CLAYTON)
BARTHOLEMEW, DIDST THOU HEAR A RUMBLING?
I DIDST, ELIAS!
GOBBLE!!
IT DOTH SOUNDETH LIKE A GIANT TURKEY BIRD!
SHOULDST WE RUNNETH?
INDEEDST!
THE WAY THEY TALK IS SO TRUE TO THE TIME!
I DO MY RESEARCH.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "— goes there?"
4 Pyramid, maybe
8 Third son
12 Not 'neath
13 Actress Perlman
14 152, in old Rome
15 Speeches
17 Band boosters
18 Fanatic
19 Red algae
21 Main circus tent
24 Poorly lit
25 "A Chorus Line" song
26 Aye undoer
28 Argue against
32 Farm fraction
34 Aachen article
36 Judicial garb
37 Limerick feature
39 Preschooler
41 "Angie" actor Stephen
42 Conk on the head
44 Humidor contents
46 Fact book
50 Arrest
51 Turkish officials
52 Overabundance
56 Baseball stats
57 Staffer
58 Harry Potter pal
59 Online craft shop
60 Stentorian
61 Oklahoma city

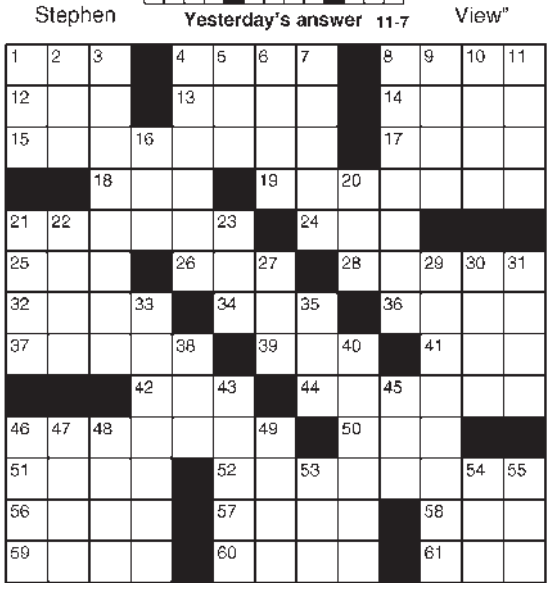
DOWN

1 Romance
2 That girl
3 Citrus greenhouse
4 Poseidon's son
5 "So that's it!"
6 Clothing store section
7 Founded (on)
8 Con artist
9 Sailor's saint
10 Gratuities
11 Radiator sound
16 Boy king
20 Melody
21 Piglet's dad
22 Foot fraction
23 Writer's block?
27 However
29 Polynesian island
30 Modern taxi rival
31 Brewed drinks
33 Envoy's residence
35 Sinbad's bird
38 Long time
40 Like some car windows
43 Vatican-related
45 "How frustrating!"
46 Rhine feeder
47 Pride parade initials
48 "But," in French
49 Advertising award
53 Sch. URL ender
54 Shower curtain holder
55 Navarro of "The View"

Solution time: 24 mins.

M	A	G	■	C	A	R	Y	■	E	R	A	S
A	S	U	■	A	R	E	A	■	S	N	I	P
A	T	A	■	S	I	L	K	S	C	A	R	F
M	I	C	A	H	■	■	S	H	H	■	■	■
■	■	■	R	E	B	A	■	Y	E	A	T	S
S	I	L	K	W	O	R	M	■	W	R	I	T
E	L	I	■	S	I	H	O	S	■	G	N	U
E	L	E	V	■	S	I	L	K	W	O	O	D
M	S	D	O	S	■	D	E	E	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	D	I	D	■	■	T	Y	P	O	S
S	I	L	K	S	O	N	I	C	■	A	W	E
E	L	S	A	■	G	I	S	H	■	I	E	A
W	E	T	S	■	G	A	R	Y	■	S	S	N

Yesterday's answer 11-7



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lorde, 28; Adam DeVine, 41; David Guetta, 57; Joni Mitchell, 81.

Happy Birthday: Revisit plans and promises. Establish a timeline and map out a route that helps you gain momentum. Be the one to start conversations and set up meetings that show your intent is admirable, not blusterous. It's out with the old, in with the new, and now is the right time to implement worthwhile changes that encourage you to live your way. Don't shy away from going the distance; it's your year to soar. Your numbers are 6, 19, 24, 29, 32, 38, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Be open to suggestions, but first consider the source, and only do what feels comfortable and in your best interest. Update your appearance or adjust how you earn or handle your money and lifestyle. A reunion will take you on a trip back in time that encourages a forward-thinking outlook. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Tune in to what and who interests you most. Speak up and share your thoughts and beliefs, and you'll find your tribe. Joining forces with like-minded people will lead to meaningful connections that influence your life personally and professionally. A partnership looks promising, and romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Take care of situations swiftly. Refuse to let someone interfere in your life, handle your money or answer for you. Create opportunities that suit your needs and protect your reputation from those trying to rewrite history. Define who you are and what you want. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Participation is the name of the game; if you want to win, you have to play. Set high standards and develop a technique that differentiates you from any competition. Don't fear being different; let your imagination wander and your brilliance shine through. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take advantage of any chance to demonstrate what you can achieve. Show your leadership ability and back your words with action. A passionate display that illustrates honor and integrity will win favors and support, giving you the boost you need to achieve your goal. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take time to participate in something that excites you. The outcome will encourage you to incorporate more activities into your routine that ease stress and connect you to positive individuals who inspire you. Follow your heart instead of letting others dictate how you live your life. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Refuse to let domestic problems deplete your energy or result in an ultimatum. Surround yourself with upbeat people who offer positive suggestions. A reunion or makeover will brighten your day and give you a chance to reassess what's best for you. A change of scenery is favored. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* A journey will lead to enlightenment. Whether it's an emotional or physical trip, the outcome will leave you with clarity and the desire to initiate the changes that resonate with your soul. Be open to the universe, and gain insight by observing how others react to you. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Someone will mislead or tempt you; be ready to say no. A quick response will send a warning not to mess with you. Create opportunities that add to your security. A lucrative investment or financial gain is apparent. Keep your eyes open and your reflexes on guard. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* A partnership or joint venture will take a turn. Pay attention and refuse to give anyone authority to decide for you. Lowering your overhead, making a residential move or finding another source of income is apparent. Let go of deadweight and do whatever it takes to ease stress. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* An opportunity to incorporate something you enjoy doing into your daily routine will help to ease stress, encourage personal growth, enhance your circle of friends and give you hope for a brighter future. Find new outlets for your skills. Diversification will help harness new opportunities. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Waffling or giving in to temptation will be a sign of weakness. Refuse to let anyone compromise you mentally, physically or financially. Stand up for yourself and your rights, and make your position clear. Sending a strong message will ensure any changes that transpire are to your liking. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are inspirational, robust and outgoing. You are earnest and dependable.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4			2					
9	6		8	3		2		
				6		5	3	1
		9						
5			9	8			1	6
	2	1	3					
							5	8
		4			3	6		
				2		3		

Difficulty: ★★★ 11/7

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	5	6	1	8	3	9	7	2
2	1	8	9	5	7	3	4	6
9	7	3	6	4	2	5	8	1
6	4	2	8	3	5	7	1	9
5	8	1	2	7	9	6	3	4
3	9	7	4	1	6	2	5	8
8	3	9	7	6	1	4	2	5
7	6	4	5	2	8	1	9	3
1	2	5	3	9	4	8	6	7

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Difficulty: ★★★ 11/6

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FERRIS WHEELS ARE FUN Solution: 7 letters

C	O	T	T	O	N	C	A	N	D	Y	D	D	I	G
E	H	A	P	P	Y	L	I	M	A	F	A	S	T	I
R	I	I	L	E	X	C	I	T	I	N	G	R	H	G
U	S	Y	L	S	D	U	O	L	C	O	E	I	G	A
T	T	R	I	D	W	A	V	E	N	T	N	D	I	N
C	O	O	R	I	H	C	R	D	S	O	G	E	R	T
U	R	M	H	S	H	O	O	A	A	Y	I	A	B	I
R	I	E	Ⓣ	N	I	L	O	D	P	S	N	R	O	C
T	C	M	Ⓐ	E	A	C	V	D	C	S	E	A	O	Y
S	L	E	Ⓛ	Y	R	E	E	E	T	A	E	G	T	R
U	O	T	Ⓛ	E	N	Z	G	O	G	E	R	A	H	E
M	W	A	L	T	A	T	O	W	E	R	S	I	T	N
M	N	L	U	M	T	N	A	I	G	R	A	N	D	E
E	O	R	A	M	U	S	E	M	E	N	T	L	U	C
R	E	G	N	E	S	S	A	P	M	A	E	R	C	S

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Adventure, Amazed, Amusement, Booth, Bright, Childhood, Clouds, Clown, Cotton Candy, Disney, Engineer, Exciting, Family, Fast, Giant, Giddy, Gigantic, Gondola, Grand, Happy, Historic, Large, Memory, Metal, Niagara, Parade, Passenger, Ride, Roller Coaster, Scenery, Scream, Seat, Structure, Summer, Sunset, Tall, Thrill, Tower, Toys, Wave

Yesterday's Answer: Morning

For **WONDERWORD** apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

Popovich sidelined indefinitely with undisclosed illness

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Mitch Johnson is stressing a business as usual approach for the San Antonio Spurs while coach Gregg Popovich is out indefinitely while recovering from an illness.

"Just stay consistent with the messaging that we have had," Johnson said Monday night before the Spurs' game against the Los Angeles Clippers. "Pop does so much empowerment and delegation when he is here that in a weird way, it doesn't feel like I have to do something super outlandish.

"Obviously there are big shoes to fill and we're going to do it as a group. The guys have been great and the players have stepped up as well in that regard."

San Antonio announced Monday morning that Popovich did not travel with the team on its current road trip. The Spurs are at Houston on Wednesday before hosting Portland on Thursday.

Johnson said he talked to Popovich on Sunday night and that the 75-year-old coach is in good spirits. There isn't a timeline, though, on when Popovich might be back.

This is the third time Johnson has served as interim coach in Popovich's absence. It is his ninth year in the Spurs organization. He started as an assistant for the Spurs G League team in Austin before becoming one of Popovich's assistants in 2019.

"This has happened a few times," Johnson said. "I've coached Summer League before. I've been behind the bench. I've been in the G League. All those things helped the organization, so I think this is just another opportunity in a different role to hopefully help the team win."

Johnson was informed about 2 1/2 hours prior to Saturday's tipoff against the Minnesota Timberwolves that Popovich was unavailable because of an undisclosed illness. The Spurs won that game 113-103 to improve to 3-3.

Johnson thinks Popovich's absence could be a motivating factor.

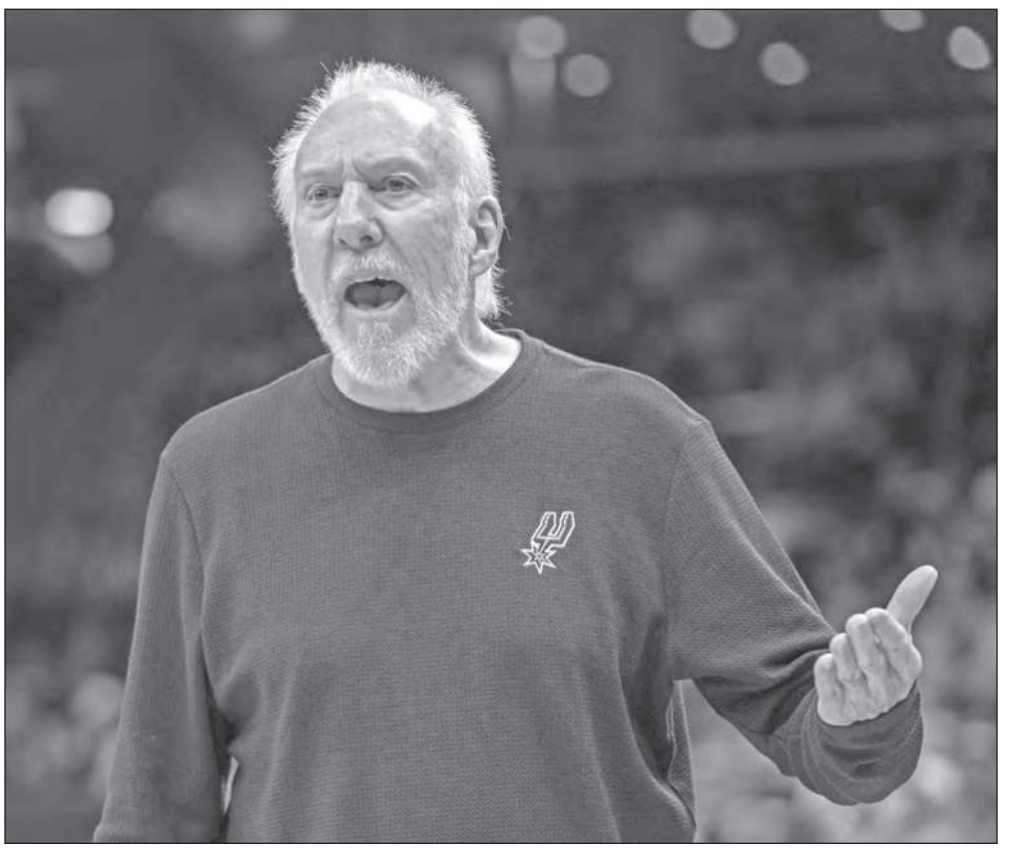
Victor Wembanyama, the top pick in the 2023 draft, is averaging 18 points and 9.8 rebounds, while veteran additions Chris Paul and Harrison Barnes are both averaging 11.7 points.

Early on, the biggest improvements have been on defense. San Antonio is allowing 104.7 points compared to 118.6 last season. Opponents are shooting 42.7% from the field. Last season it was 48.7%.

"It's really hard to play defense in this league. It's a credit to Chris and Harrison, the veterans on the team that have come in. I think you set a tone about some of those same things, about how hard it is to win and the attention to detail and being professional," Johnson said. "Victor is a huge part of that as well. He's a year older and he has grown tremendously. It's something we can hope to continue to build upon."

Former assistant coaches Tim Duncan and Becky Hammon have also served as Spurs head coach because of an illness or medical procedure for Popovich in the past five seasons.

Popovich is the NBA's career leader with 1,390 victories and another 170 postseason wins while winning five NBA titles. He is in his 29th season, all with San Antonio.



AP

San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich reacts after a call by the official, during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024, in Salt Lake City.

Embiid suspended for three games for shoving a newspaper columnist

AP

Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid looks over the court after an NBA basketball game against the Memphis Grizzlies, Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024, in Philadelphia.

NEW YORK (AP)—Philadelphia 76ers center Joel Embiid was suspended by the NBA on Tuesday for three games without pay for shoving a member of the media.

Embiid's suspension will begin with the next regular-season game for which he is eligible and able to play. The 2023 NBA MVP has yet to play this season because of what the 76ers call left knee management.

The Sixers begin a road trip in Los Angeles against the Clippers on Wednesday night.

Embiid shouted at and eventually shoved a newspaper columnist in a locker room altercation Saturday night.

"Mutual respect is paramount to the relationship between players and media in the NBA," league executive Joe Dumars said in a statement announcing the suspension. "While we understand Joel was offended by the personal nature of the original version of the reporter's column, interactions must remain professional on both sides and can never turn physical."

Embiid took issue with Philadelphia Inquirer columnist Marcus Hayes, who mentioned the seven-time All-Star's late brother and his son—both named Arthur—in columns questioning Embiid's professionalism and effort not being in shape after playing in the Paris Olympics.

As reporters entered the locker room to talk to players following a 124-107 loss to the Memphis Grizzlies, the two-time NBA scoring champion stood and confronted Hayes.

"The next time you bring up my dead brother and my son again, you are going to see what I'm going to do to you and I'm going to have to ... live with the consequences," Embiid said to Hayes.

Embiid continued, with several instances of profanity in the next few sentences. Hayes offered an apology, which Embiid did not want. "That's not the f——— first time," Embiid said.

Embiid later said that he doesn't care what reporters say. "But you do," Hayes answered.

Embiid appeared to get louder at that point, and not long afterward pushed Hayes on the shoulder while the team's public relations chief got between them. Another PR person moved Tyrese Maxey's interview to the hallway outside the locker room, trying to clear reporters.

Embiid was the No. 3 pick in the 2014 draft but missed his first two full seasons with injuries. Since his first full season in 2016, he has played in 433 of a possible 805 regular-season games and only 59 of 67 possible playoff games.

Cavaliers match 1976 squad for best start in franchise history, improve to 8-0 by edging Bucks

CLEVELAND (AP)—The win total is growing quickly, and so is the Cavaliers' confidence.

At 8-0 so far, they're the only unbeaten team left in the Eastern Conference and at this point they might as well win them all.

"That's the plan," center Jarrett Allen said with a wide smile.

The Cavs kept their unblemished record intact on Monday night with a 116-114 win over the Milwaukee Bucks, who pushed Cleveland to the absolute limit despite playing without injured two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo.

Darius Garland scored 39 points to pace the Cavs, outdueling Bucks star Damian Lillard in the final minutes as the point guards put on a dazzling display of shot-making to the delight of another rocking crowd inside Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

"It was amazing," said Garland, who made 7 of 11 3-pointers, including a go-ahead one with 45 seconds left that put the Cavs up 113-111. "I grew up watching Dame. It was super cool playing some 1-on-1 basketball."

It's been team ball that has gotten Cleveland off to its pristine start.

With the win, the Cavs matched the best start in franchise history, equaling the 1976-77 Cavs, who went 8-0 before finishing 43-39 under coach Bill Fitch.

"We're not doing that," All-Star Donovan Mitchell said, cutting off a reporter who mentioned the franchise record for fear of jinxing the team's early run. "I did know that. It's great. Obviously, you want to enjoy the little things on the road and it's great to have that, but at the end of the day it's been eight games."

Maybe so, but the Cavs have won them all under first-year coach Kenny Atkinson, and they've done it with a new catalyst emerging almost every night.

"We've won in so many different ways," said Mitchell, who signed a three-year contract extension with the Cavs this summer. "That's been more impressive to me than the eight wins, just how we've done it. We've had blowouts. We've had close games. We've come back. Every night it's somebody new."

Atkinson has been willing to go deep in his bench almost every game. Although he was missing starter Dean Wade and top reserve Caris LeVert against the Bucks because of injuries, he used 10 players, including rookie Luke Travers, who appeared in just his second game.

"It just shows the belief in the group, from top to bottom," said Mitchell, who beat the Bucks on Saturday with a jumper in the final second. "And the belief we have in each other."

The Cavs know the first loss will come at some point, and it's unlikely they'll threaten the NBA record held by the 2015-16 Golden State Warriors, who opened 24-0. But they're having fun and nothing is more fun than winning.

"We're all just locked in," Garland said.

Jones says Prescott is likely headed to IR, but owner isn't giving up on season

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—With Dak Prescott likely out at least four games in an anticipated move to injured reserve because of the star quarterback's strained hamstring, the Dallas Cowboys are still buyers.

Those were the words of owner and general manager Jerry Jones on his radio show Tuesday—trade deadline day—when he acknowledged the addition of Carolina receiver Jonathan Mingo without giving the name after updating the prognosis on his franchise QB.

"We're not selling," said Jones, whose team will give up a 2025 fourth-round draft pick and add a seventh-rounder in the trade with the Panthers. "We will make that case. We're buying and not selling."

Prescott sustained the injury in the second half of a 27-21 loss to Atlanta. The Cowboys (3-5) play NFC East rival Philadelphia (6-2) on Sunday, the second of four consecutive games against winning teams.

"It's an extended period of time here," Jones said. "I wouldn't dare make a prediction when it could be. We'll see kind of how his rehab goes."

AP

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott speaks at a news conference after an NFL football game against the San Francisco 49ers in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, Oct. 27, 2024.

Cooper Rush will replace Prescott, just as he did when the Cowboys went 4-1 in 2022 after Prescott broke his thumb in a season-opening loss. Rush also won a game in 2021 filling in for the 2016 AP Offensive Rookie of the Year and three-time Pro Bowler.

Prescott's absence is another setback in a season full of them for the Cowboys, who are on their first three-game losing streak since 2020. Dallas played the last 11 games of that 6-10 season without Prescott after he broke an ankle.

"There's no question that Dak's injury is a setback," Jones said. "But we've seen Cooper do it. We know what we need to do, the strategies on the offense. We just need to come together game by game, use all of our players to the extent that it helps us."

The defending NFC East champions are already three games behind Washington and Philadelphia in the division. The Commanders (7-2) are part of the four-game stretch against winning teams.

The meeting with Washington is the only road game in the next five for Dallas, which is 0-3 at home. Assuming he ends up on IR, Prescott won't be available until the end of that five-game stretch Dec. 9 against Cincinnati.

Jones said he expected two-time All-Pro pass rusher Micah Parsons to return against the Eagles after missing four games with a high ankle sprain. Coach Mike McCarthy expects Parsons to practice Wednesday for the first time since the injury.

The season debut should be close for All-Pro cornerback DaRon Bland, who set an NFL record with five interception returns for touchdowns last season. He had surgery for a stress fracture in his foot late in the preseason.

"We're going to have to have it from within to get where we all want to go," Jones said. "We're going to have to do something that's a storybook type of scenario. I've been a part of a couple of those. And it can happen."

Mingo was a 2023 second-round pick by the Panthers, who are tied for the worst record in the NFL. He has been outplayed in his second season by a pair of rookies in first-round pick Xavier Legette and Jalen Coker, who was undrafted. Carolina also traded receiver Diontae Johnson last week.

The move for Mingo was probably about more than just this season for Dallas. Brandin Cooks, the No. 2 receiver behind All-Pro CeeDee Lamb, will be a free agent in 2025. Mingo's contract goes through 2026.

Lamb sprained his right shoulder against the Falcons but is expected to play Sunday. Cooks, who has a knee issue, can come off IR this week, but the Cowboys have been deliberate with their return-to-play designations.

To make room on the roster for Mingo, the Cowboys released cornerback Andrew Booth, who was acquired in a trade with Minnesota during training camp.

Chiefs reach 8-0 with nail-biter against Bucs, game neatly summing up season of close wins

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The entirety of the Kansas City Chiefs' season at the midway point could be summed up by their performance Monday night against Tampa Bay.

They had their miscues, their turnovers, their blown tackles on defense, and they allowed a team they were expected to beat easily hang around to the end of regulation.

Then they won anyway.

The Buccaneers gave Patrick Mahomes and Co. one more chance in overtime, after they elected to kick the PAT and tie the game after their touchdown with 27 seconds left, and the Chiefs promptly scored a TD of their own for a 30-24 victory.

That improved the Chiefs to 8-0, making them just the sixth defending Super Bowl champion to reach that mark unbeaten, and they have done it by the slimmest of margins. Kansas City is winning by an average of 7.0 points per game, the smallest margin of victory by nearly half a point of the 41 teams in NFL history that have won their first eight games.

The previous low was 7.4 points, set by the Colts in 2006. They went on to win the Super Bowl.

"Against a team with an offense like that," Bucs quarterback Baker Mayfield said, "you can only give them so many chances."

More specifically, you can only give Mahomes so many chances.

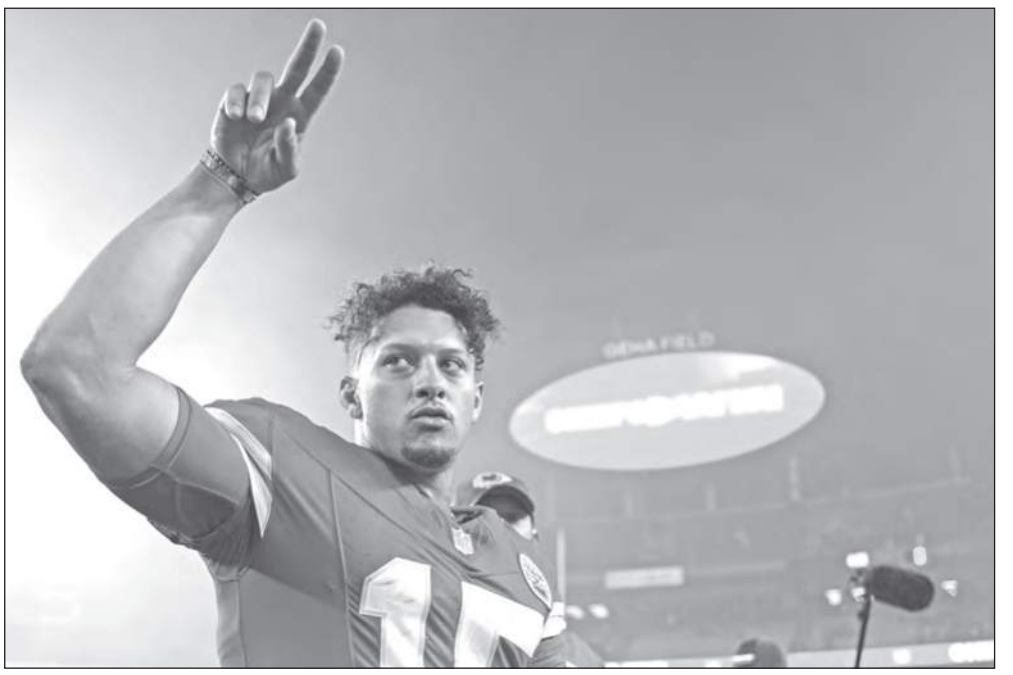
The two-time NFL MVP had played a pedestrian first seven games, throwing a pick in each of them. But with three-time All-Pro wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins suddenly at his disposal, courtesy of a trade with the Titans, Mahomes was back to slinging the ball all over the field. He threw for 291 yards and three TDs against the Bucs, with Hopkins getting two of them.

"Pat and I just out there making plays," Hopkins said afterward.

Just as he's done so many times with so many wide receivers.

Indeed, Mahomes looked like his vintage self against Tampa Bay, rallying the Chiefs on two long fourth-quarter TD drives to take the lead with 4:17 to go, despite playing on a sore ankle. And when Mayfield and the Bucs forced overtime with their touchdown in the final minute, Mahomes was 5 for 5 in the extra session, setting up Kareem Hunt's winning touchdown plunge.

Mahomes improved to 47-19 in games decided by a touchdown or less, including playoffs. The only QB better with at least 30 games on his resume is Daryle Lamonica, who went 24-5-6 during a 12-year career with Buffalo and Oakland.



AP

Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) walks off the field after a win against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in overtime of an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 4, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo.

Yet Mahomes is the first to point out that all those wins are a team effort. The Chiefs defense continues to be one of the best in the NFL, especially against the run, while Hunt's arrival has allowed them to keep some semblance of offensive balance.

The result has been a perfect start to their pursuit of an unprecedented third straight Super Bowl title.

What's working

The Chiefs' passing game has finally hit its stride, thanks largely to Hopkins, who had eight catches for 86 yards in only his second game with Kansas City. Even when he wasn't catching passes Monday night, the Buccaneers were forced to pay attention to him, and that freed up Travis Kelce to catch 14 passes — his most in a regular-season game — for 100 yards.

What needs help

The Chiefs have struggled all season to cover tight ends, beginning in Week 1 with Baltimore's Isaiah Likely right through Tampa Bay's Cade Otton on Monday night. Otton finished with eight catches for 77 yards and a touchdown.

Stock up

Chiefs cornerback Chris Roland-Wallace has quietly excelled when pressed into duty following an injury to Jaylen Watson that will sideline him for the rest of the season. Nazeeh Johnson also has been missing while in the concussion protocol.

Stock down

The Chiefs expected first-round pick Xavier Worthy to be a bit boom-or-bust as a rookie, and lately the speedster has been more bust than boom. He carried twice for minus-10 yards and failed to catch either of his targets against Tampa Bay. Worthy has only had more than three catches or eclipsed 47 yards receiving once through the first eight games.

Injuries

Mahomes tweaked his ankle against Tampa Bay but finished the game, and WR Mecole Hardman (shoulder), DE George Karlaftis (hip) and DE Turk Wharton (right knee) also played through minor injuries. The Chiefs hope to get Johnson back this week, while it is beginning to look promising that RB Isiah Pacheco (fractured fibulas) could return at some point this season.

Key number

30 — The Chiefs, once known for their prolific offense, scored 30 points on Monday night—albeit needing overtime to do it—for the first time since beating the Raiders 31-17 on Nov. 26, 2023.

Next steps

The Chiefs get a rare noon kickoff at Arrowhead Stadium when they play the AFC West-rival Denver Broncos next Sunday.

Escaping from a 121-loss hole will be hard for White Sox

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Rock bottom proved to be even rockier than the Chicago White Sox ever dreamed.

Now second-year general manager Chris Getz has the unenviable task of pulling the South Side out of the baseball abyss following a 121-loss season that was the worst in modern MLB history.

» But team has other MLB teams to use as blueprint

Recent history shows that the massive rebuild won't be easy, but it can be done.

Fairly quickly, in fact.

"One of the things I learned is that we weren't as far off as it felt at times," said Texas Rangers GM Chris Young, whose team won the World Series in 2023 after losing 102 games two seasons prior.

"We had the 102-loss season, followed by a 94-loss season, but there were some things just beneath the surface that indicated it could turn quickly," Young said. "And it did."

The Rangers, Baltimore Orioles and Arizona Diamondbacks are among the franchises that the White Sox can use as examples for how to improve in a hurry. The Orioles and D-backs both lost 110 games in 2021.

Fast forward to 2023 and the Orioles won 101 regular season games while the Diamondbacks and Rangers both made a surprise run to the World Series, which Texas won in five games. All three teams are still in good long-term shape.

AP

Boston Red Sox acting manager Will Venable watches from the dugout during a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays Sunday, April 24, 2022, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Even more recently, the Royals made the playoffs this season after losing 106 games in 2023.

"You look at different blueprints for teams that have gone through similar situations, and how they've gone about it," Getz said on Tuesday at Major League Baseball's GM meetings. "These things can change quickly."

Texas probably had the easiest solution to bouncing back from triple-digit losses—spending lots of cash. The Rangers hit the free agent market hard after their dismal 2021, committing $500 million to land All-Star infielders Marcus Semien and Corey Seager.

Arizona made its move up the standings with a combination of shrewd trades, out-of-the-box signings and quality draft picks. The D-backs have long occupied a sort of middle ground in baseball's marketplace where they are able to pursue free agents, but can't get reckless.

General manager Mike Hazen picked up ace Zac Gallen in a 2019 trade with the Miami Marlins. He signed right-hander Merrill Kelly after he had a few good seasons pitching in South Korea. And then the farm system developed several quality players, including 2023 NL Rookie of the Year Corbin Carroll, All-Star shortstop Geraldo Perdomo and starting pitchers Brandon Pfaadt and Ryne Nelson.

It's not that every move worked out — the D-backs blew $85 million on a five-year contract for left-hander Madison Bumgarner — but there were more hits than misses.

The Orioles' rebuild was more like the D-backs. General manager Mike Elias built around young players like 2023 AL Rookie of the Year Gunnar Henderson, catcher Adley Rutschman and slugger Anthony Santander, supplementing with a few free agents.

Now Baltimore looks like it'll be a factor in the American League for the next decade. But Elias admits the rebuild was tough.

Yankees GM Cashman says he's talked with Scott Boras about Juan Soto and Pete Alonso

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Yankees general manager Brian Cashman has started talks with agent Scott Boras about keeping Juan Soto with New York, and they also discussed power-hitting first baseman Pete Alonso.

Cashman said he spoke Monday with Boras at the general managers meetings and revealed he had a conversation with Soto after the season, which ended with the Yankees losing the World Series to the Los Angeles Dodgers in five games.

"I had a chance to thank him for everything and told him we'd be in touch," Cashman said Tuesday. "And then since that time I've talked to obviously Scott, as well, and so he'll get a feel for the dance steps that Juan Soto wants and he'll keep us in the loop."

A free agent at age 26, Soto is expected to command a contract of $500 million or more. New York acquired him from San Diego in December, and Soto hit .288 with 41 homers, 109 RBIs and 129 walks, combining with Aaron Judge to form a powerful 1-2 punch at Nos. 2-3 in the batting order. Soto's three-run, 10th-inning homer in Game 5 of the American League Championship Series at Cleveland earned the Yankees their first pennant since 2009.

After the World Series defeat, Soto said: "I'm going to be available for all 30 teams" and "I don't want to say anybody has any advantage."

Cashman said New York is willing to meet with Soto as often as the player wants.

"We certainly have an interest in retaining him and we'll put our best foot forward there," Cashman said. "That will either lead to us retaining him and signing him back or we'll be forced to go to a different direction if we can't. And if we can't, there's a lot of different players in this marketplace that can positively impact this roster in different ways.

"Clearly that pressure point's not on us today, but it does exist in the marketplace every winter, so those are the tough decisions you have to make," he added.

Top free agents include Alonso and third baseman Alex Bregman, also represented by Boras.

In addition to the Yankees, the Mets under billionaire owner Steve Cohen and the Dodgers are among the teams that could afford Soto. Cashman wouldn't express how much a rival the Mets are for Soto's signature.

"They want to win. They're in a large market with us. They had a taste of success this year and they want to move the needle even more forward," Cashman said. "That's just the nature of the beast, and big-market owners with deep pockets aren't the only ones signing players to big deals. I mean, you've seen the San Diego Padres sitting out in the West Coast. They've imported a lot of big-time players with big-time contracts."

DIOCESE

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Terlaje, in behalf of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, then invites everyone to join the 2024 Health Ministry 5K Walkathon.

Register online, and avail of a free T-shirt for the first 500 on site. Health agencies like CHCC Public Health and Marianas Health will be present to conduct health screenings like immunization, blood pressure and sugar checks, and more.

"As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, this event is more than just a walk; it's a tribute to 'A faithful walk of 40 years.' We invite everyone to come out and walk with us, as we honor both our journey as a diocese and our commitment to health and unity. Together, let's take steps towards health and wellness as we continue this faithful walk into the years ahead," said Terlaje.

Sign up for the event in this link below: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJ38dQk7usocsgMIyF1Ub2Z0TX9oKD-noR4sUPEevUjdj1QQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0.

For more information, contact (670) 287-4090 or email mariaterlaje@rcdck.org.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Chalan Kanoa is an ecclesiastical territory or diocese of the Catholic Church in the United States. It comprises the territory of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and is a suffragan of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Agaña.

CHCC

From page 16

ing an offensive fire of their own. While CHCC played as a unit, DFEMS' Mario Junior Aguon was a one-man army.

He opened the game up with six consecutive points, then another seven consecutive shots in the first quarter. Only Hiram Castro disrupted his streak as they ended the quarter down by 10, 13-23.

The second quarter saw more contributions from more DFEMS players—all the while, Aguon kept his hot streak going. On the contrary, CHCC hit a wall and the gap that they built between them and DFEMS shrunk significantly as the quarter went on.

At the end of the first half, CHCC only had a seven-point cushion, 37-30.

Then, CHCC resuscitated more air and life into their lungs as they revived their control and dominance over the smoke eaters in the third quarter. They left DFEMS gasping for air in an intense battle for the upper hand and as the smoke cleared, CHCC's lead ballooned back up into double digits, 59-42.

Aguon fought a losing battle as he continued to carry his team on his back in the final quarter. He took them from a 17-point deficit to under 10 once again. He was helped by an opening 3-pointer by Giovanni Mira, then Aguon went on another rampage and scored 14 points with two from downtown.

However, CHCC's tactics paid off and they were rewarded with charity shots towards the end of the game. They made their crucial free throws and despite Aguon's efforts, CHCC pulled off DFEMS' life support, 72-66.

In the end, Sablan scored 14, Ito put up 13, and Phillips contributed 11. Aguon tore up the court with a game-high 42 points.

In the other game last Monday, IT&E disconnected E-Land, 92-75. Last Tuesday, Coca-Cola slipped past Docomo, 87-84, and PSS schooled CHCC, 100-50.

CHCC 72 – Sablan 14, Ito 13, Phillips 11, Sandig 10, Lizama 9, Omampo 6, Tudela 5, Saures 2, Bigalbal 1, Leomo 1.

DFEMS 66 – Aguon 42, Mira 10, Castro 6, Quitugua 3, Pangelinan 3, Taisakan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-13, 37-30, 59-42, 72-66.

OMG hits Cooperstown as Mets' home run sign will get Hall of Fame display

NEW YORK (AP)—The spirit of "OMG" is coming to Cooperstown.

Fresh off their exuberant run to the National League Championship Series last month, the New York Mets donated to the Baseball Hall of Fame one of those blue-and-orange OMG signs players often hoisted to accompany happy moments throughout the season.

The particular sign that was gifted, used by the pitching staff during dugout celebrations, arrived at the Museum and will soon go on display in the Your Team Today exhibit to mark "the excitement of the Mets' 2024 season," the Hall of Fame announced Tuesday.

It will remain part of the Museum's permanent collection.

"OMG" is the hit song by Mets infielder Jose Iglesias performed under the stage name Candelita that became ubiquitous at Citi Field as a team anthem this year.

The signs, created by local artist and lifelong Mets fan Jerome McCroy, became familiar to baseball fans all over the country as the wild-card Mets advanced through the playoffs. They fell two wins short of a pennant when they were eliminated by the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers in Game 6 of the NLCS.

When putting together its 2024 postseason collection, the Hall of Fame asked the Mets if they might bestow one of the signs to the Museum.

In turn, the team asked Iglesias and pitcher Luis Severino—clubhouse keepers of the signs—and they gladly agreed.

A different OMG sign used by hitters to celebrate big swings will ultimately be displayed in the Mets' Hall of Fame at Citi Field, the team said.

Popovich sidelined indefinitely with undisclosed illness

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Sports

Escaping from a 121-loss hole will be hard for White Sox

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Eagles fly high in Bracket 3 of co-ed tourney

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy Eagles 2 flew high in Bracket 3 of the 2024-2025 PSS-NMBA Interscholastic Co-ed Middle School Badminton League after their first day of games last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

NMBA

Grace Christian Academy Eagles players in action during the 2024-2025 PSS-NMBA Interscholastic Co-ed Middle School Badminton League after their first day of games last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Eagles garnered the most points to clinch the top spot with six points from six wins. Second place was Tanapag Middle School Tatagas 1 with five points and wins; Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School Napu Riders was third at three; and Dandan Middle School Tottots 2 had one.

GCA 2 nearly swept the Tottots 2, but came away with four wins out of five. The Eagles clipped the Tottots wings in the boys/girls doubles and boys/girls singles. Meanwhile, the Tottots took over the mixed doubles event and won to give them their lone point of the day.

The Eagles then matched up against the Napu Riders and won two events out of five. The Eagles had the upper hand in the boys doubles and singles, while FMS was dominant in the girls and doubles, and mixed doubles.

The Eagles roster includes Breanna Lopez, Keala Takeda, Kate Xu, Cody Park, Minato Takahashi, David Zheng, Zabdiel Ong, and Eric Li.

The next round-robin match day with Rota and Tinian middle schools are this Friday, Nov. 8, then Saturday, Nov. 9, then Nov. 16. The Top 6 double elimination round is on Nov. 23, with the championship rounds on Nov. 29.

NMBA

Grace Christian Academy Eagles' badminton team are seen on the bleachers during the 2024-2025 PSS-NMBA Interscholastic Co-ed Middle School Badminton League after their first day of games last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

CHCC extinguishes DFEMS, 72-66

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CHCC poses for a group photo during the 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2024 last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CHCC extinguished DFEMS, 72-66, in the 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/ Business League 2024 last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

From the beginning, CHCC's staff had a chokehold on the firefighters as they clashed in a battle between the NMI's frontliners. CHCC established a slight upper hand, using their more strategic play and better ball-to-basket skills to maintain a sizable lead throughout.

CHCC's John Sablan, Mike Ito, and James Phillips led the charge—their chemistry evident as they executed plays that kept DFEMS from ignit-

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Diocese of CK's 5K walkathon on Nov. 23

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants braved the early morning rain to join in the Annual 5K Walkathon organized by the Health Ministry of the Chalan Kanoa diocese in 2019. The walkathon this year celebrates the diocese' 40th anniversary and is set for Saturday, Nov. 23.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, by joining its annual Health Ministry 5K Walkathon.

The walk is set for Saturday, Nov. 23, and begins at 6:30am, at the venue at the Garapan Fishing Base across Kristo Rai Parish. The venue opens at 5am.

The route is from the fishing base to Quartermaster Road and back.

Health Ministry coordinator Maria Terlaje said the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa's Health Ministry 5K Walkathon is their annual event dedicated to both the community and the diocese.

"It represents a commitment to promoting health and well-being among parishioners and local residents. This event not only encourages a healthy lifestyle but also strengthens our community bond, inviting everyone to come together in faith, health, and fellowship."

She said this year, the 5K walkathon holds a special meaning as it aligns with the 40th anniversary celebration of the diocese with the theme, "A Faithful Walk of 40 years as a Diocese."

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